美味しんぼ（おいしんぼ）

17

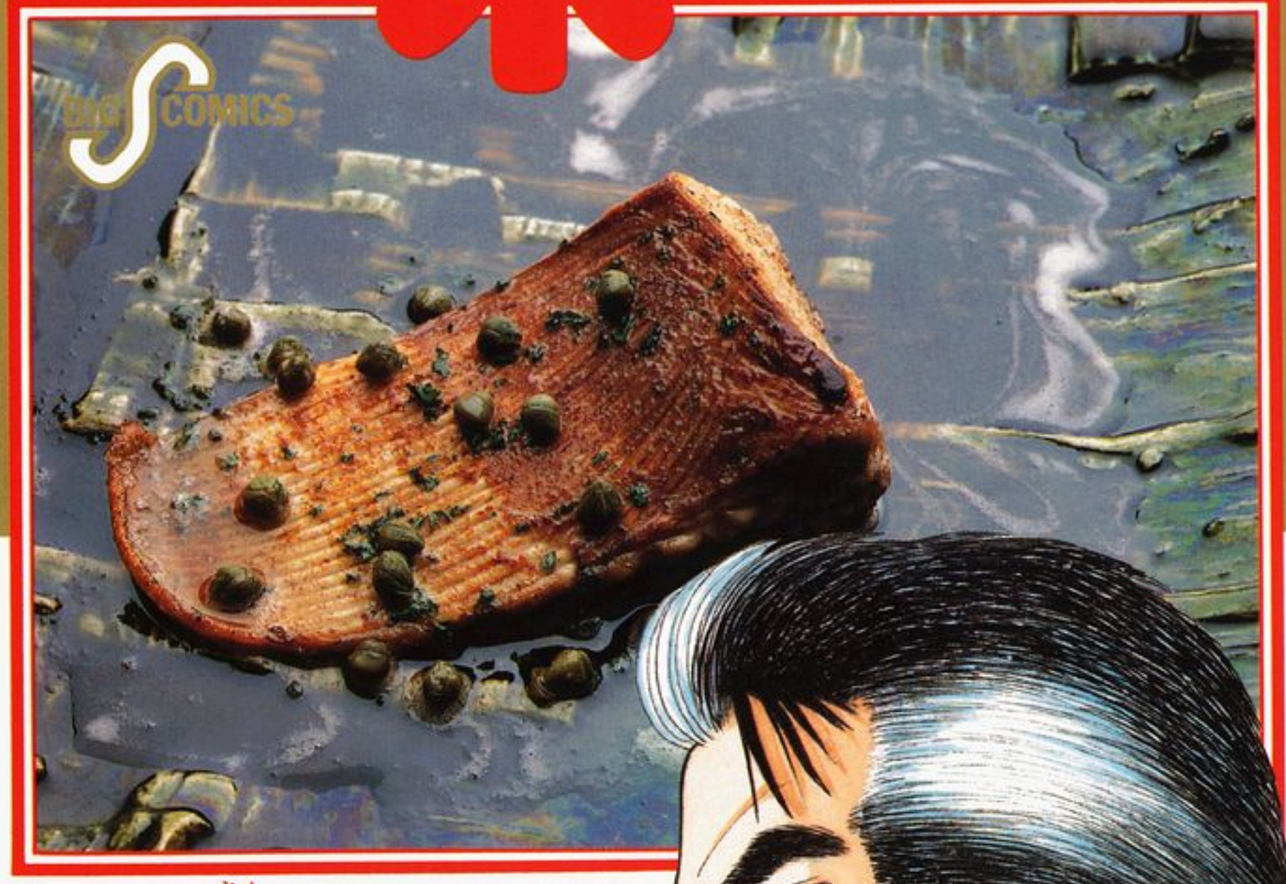
雁屋 哲・花咲アキラ

ビッグコミックス好評発売中！

カムイ外伝（白土三平）……全20巻
白土三平異色作品集（白土三平）…1～18集
のたり松太郎（ちばてつや）……1～22集
土佐の一本釣り（青柳裕介）……1～25集
陽だまりの樹（手塚治虫）……全11巻
MW〈ムウ〉（手塚治虫）……全3巻
ドン〈極道水滸伝〉（本宮ひろ志）……全3巻
男樹（本宮ひろ志）……1～6集
魔物語（小池一夫・叶精作）……全17巻
あぶさん（水島新司）……1～40集
夕焼けの詩（西岸良平）……1～26集
浮浪雲（ジョージ秋山）……1～38集
釣りバカ日誌（北見けんいち・やまさき十三）……1～22集
弐十手物語（小池一夫・神江里見）…1～44集
紅い芝生（小池一夫・弘兼憲史）……全6巻
人間交差点（矢島正雄・弘兼憲史）…1～20集
愛しのチイパッパ（北見けんいち・やまさき十三）……1～18集
めぞん一刻（高橋留美子）……全15巻
ぼっけもん（岩重孝）……全14巻
軽井沢シンドローム（たがみよしひさ）……全9巻
傷追い人（小池一夫・池上遼一）……全11巻
瑠璃色ゼネレーション（柳沢きみお）…全7巻
わたしは真悟（楳図かずお）……全10巻
なぜか笑介（聖日出夫）……1～17集
ホットDOC（きむらはじめ・加藤唯史）……1～12集
パラダイス通信（神戸さくみ）……全3巻
風のノブ（前川K三）……全7巻
利平さんとこのおばあちゃん（法月理栄）……1～2集
僚平新事情（六田登）……全2巻
1½いっかにぶんのいち（むつ利之）…全2巻
ホテル（石ノ森章太郎）……1～9集
男の自画像（柳沢きみお）……1～6集
パイナップルARMY（工藤かずや・浦沢直樹）……全8巻
ブルー・ジーン（くじらいいくこ）……全3巻
F〈エフ〉（六田登）……1～11集
味いちもんめ（あべ善太・倉田よしみ）……1～5集
二匹のブル（瀬叩龍・岩重孝）……全10巻
明日カイブツ（小池一夫・木村えいじ）…1～6集
あどりぶシネ倶楽部（細野不二彦）……全1巻
キスより簡単（石坂啓）……全6巻

装丁／海野一雄　　カバー・フォト／菊地和男

美味しんぼ（おいしんぼ）



17 エイと鮫

作・雁屋 哲
画・花咲アキラ

BIG COMICS

美味しんぼ 17

エイと鮫

作・雁屋 哲　画・花咲アキラ

小学館
BC1407

BIG COMICS

美味しんぼ

17

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雁屋 哲 / 花咲アキラ 著作集

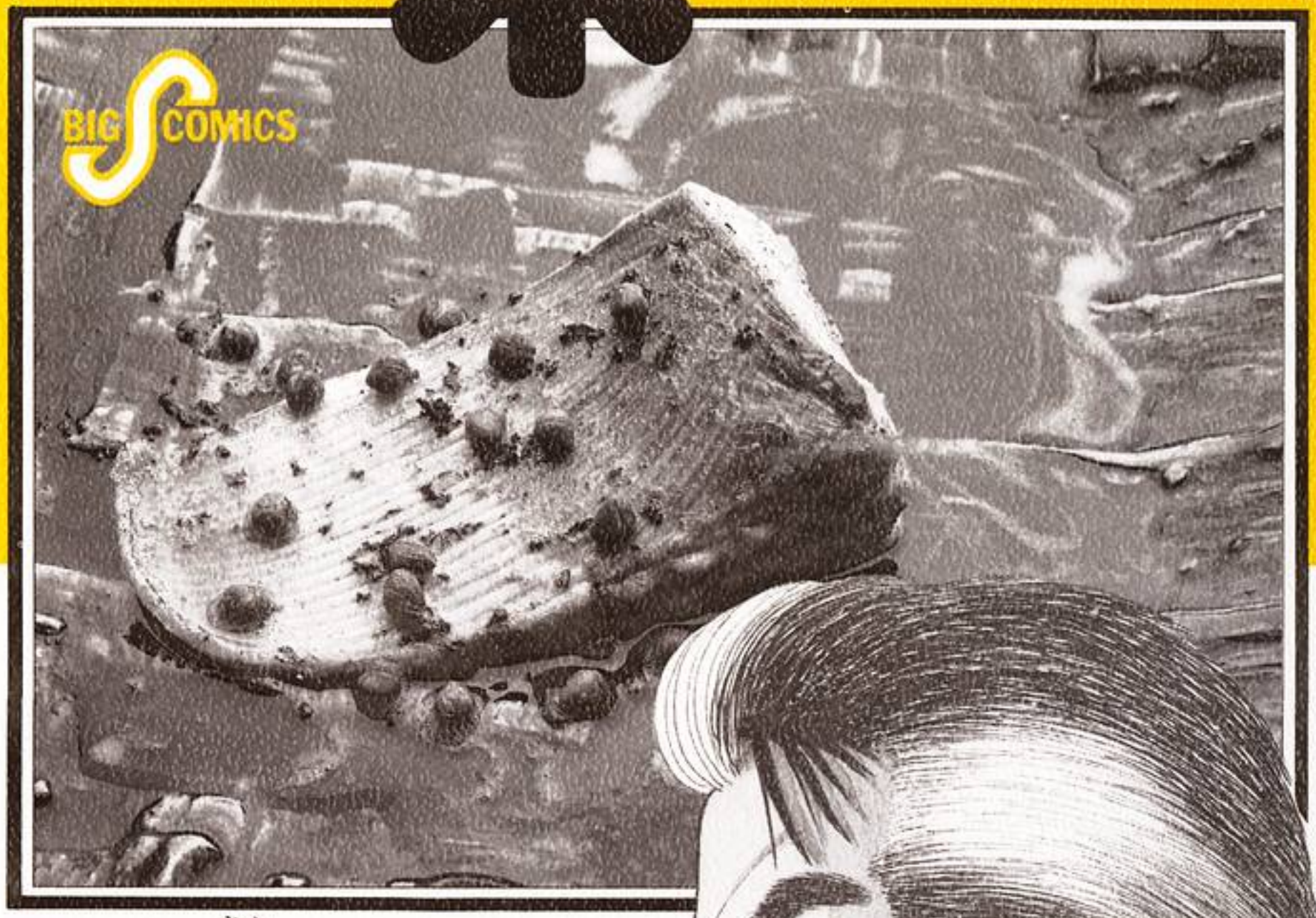
■ ビッグコミックス

美味しんぼ……Ⅰ～17集発売中

■ビッグコミックス好評発売中／■

ミセスKに伝言（神戸さくみ）……全Ⅰ巻
オレの奥さん！（はやせ淳）……全Ⅰ巻
HARD METAL（松本零士）……Ⅰ～2集
Cryingフリーマン（小池一夫・池上遼一）……全9巻
マネー・ハンター（玄太郎）……全3巻
陶子（篠原とおる）……Ⅰ～4集
パンツが大好き（よしまさこ）……全Ⅰ巻
総務部総務課 山口六平太（林律雄 高井研一郎）……Ⅰ～5集
はっぱ64（山本直樹）……全3巻
妻をめとらば（柳沢きみお）……Ⅰ～8集
YAWARA！（浦沢直樹）……Ⅰ～7集
ぼくの西鉄ライオンズ（長谷川法世）……Ⅰ集
神の左手悪魔の右手（楳図かずお）…Ⅰ～6集
土佐の一本釣り PART2 純平（青柳裕介）……Ⅰ～5集
ボギー（やまさき十三 芳谷圭児）……Ⅰ～4集
踊る警官（浦沢直樹）……全Ⅰ巻
冒険してもいい頃（みやすのんき）…Ⅰ～6集
マドンナ（くじらいいくこ）……Ⅰ～6集
BROTHERS（小池一夫・叶精作）……Ⅰ～5集
信長（工藤かずや・池上遼一）……Ⅰ～3集
ALICE12（新谷かおる）……全Ⅰ巻
くどき屋ジョー（ジョージ秋山）…Ⅰ～3集
極めてかもしだ（山本直樹）……Ⅰ～6集
博多新聞東京支社（長谷川法世）……Ⅰ～2集
スローニン（吉田聡）……全4巻
寄席芸人伝（古谷三敏）……全11巻
ＡＤ物語（国友やすゆき）……Ⅰ集
あんたの代理人（高井研一郎）……Ⅰ～2集
アレルギー戦士（石坂啓）……全Ⅰ巻
トップはオレだ!!（とりいかずよし）…Ⅰ～2集
萬川集海（小池一夫・神崎将臣）……Ⅰ～2集
浦沢直樹短編集 ＮＡＳＡ（浦沢直樹）……全Ⅰ巻
夢みるトマト（石坂啓）……Ⅰ～3集
ザ・ジュニア（神田圭介・叶精作）…Ⅰ～2集
とっても医院（花井みやは 喜多哲一）……Ⅰ～2集
あべせで用心（西ゆうじ・長尾ともひさ）……Ⅰ集
くのまち商店街（聖日出夫）……Ⅰ集
キャリング（石坂啓・堀田あきお）Ⅰ～2集
釣りバカ日誌 番外編（やまさき十三 北見けんいち）……Ⅰ集
出直しといで！（一色まこと）……Ⅰ～2集
ツルモク独身寮（窪之内英策）……Ⅰ～2集
家栽の人（毛利甚八・魚戸おさむ）……Ⅰ集
赤い鳩〈アピル〉（小池一夫・池上遼一）…Ⅰ集
グリンゴ（手塚治虫）……Ⅰ集

美味しんぼ



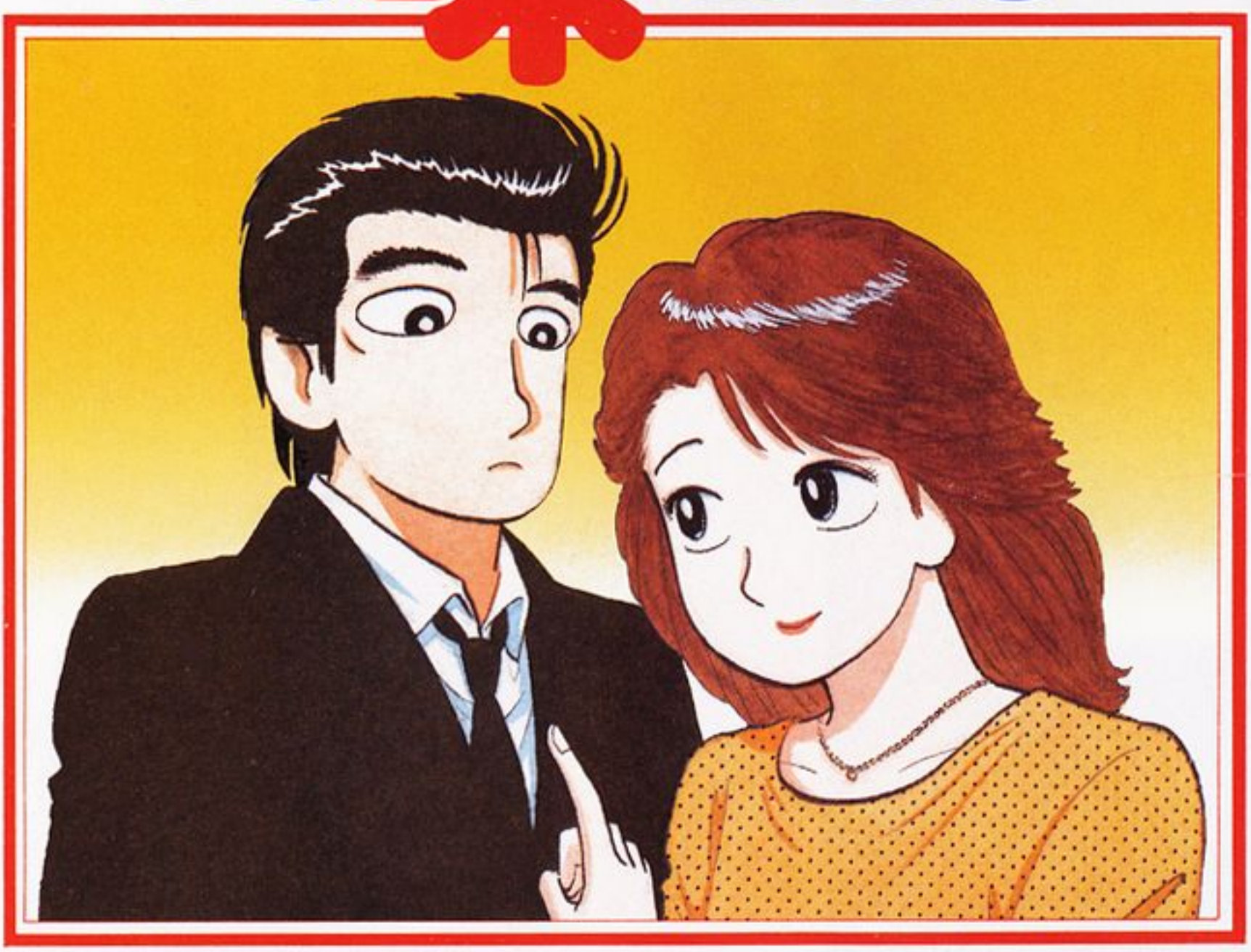
17 エイと鮫（さめ）

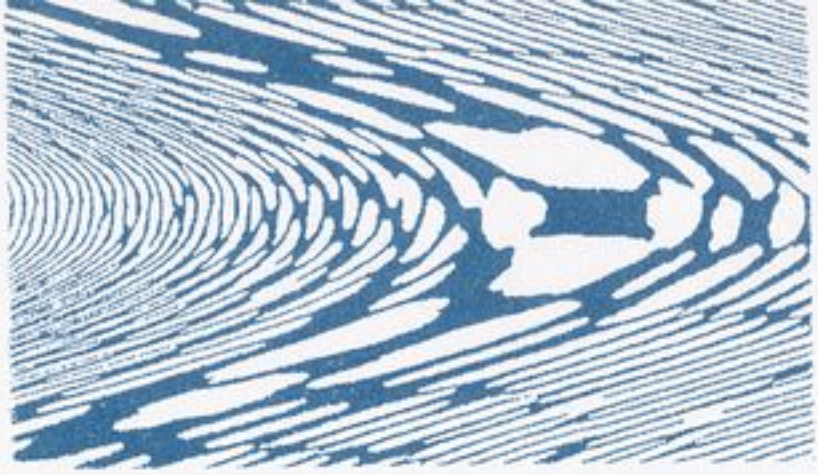
作・雁屋 哲
画・花咲アキラ

17 エイと鮫

Raie au Beurre noisette（エイの焦がしバターソース）調理/ドデュ・ダーンド。器作／高内秀剛。

美味しんぼ





美味(おい)しんぼ

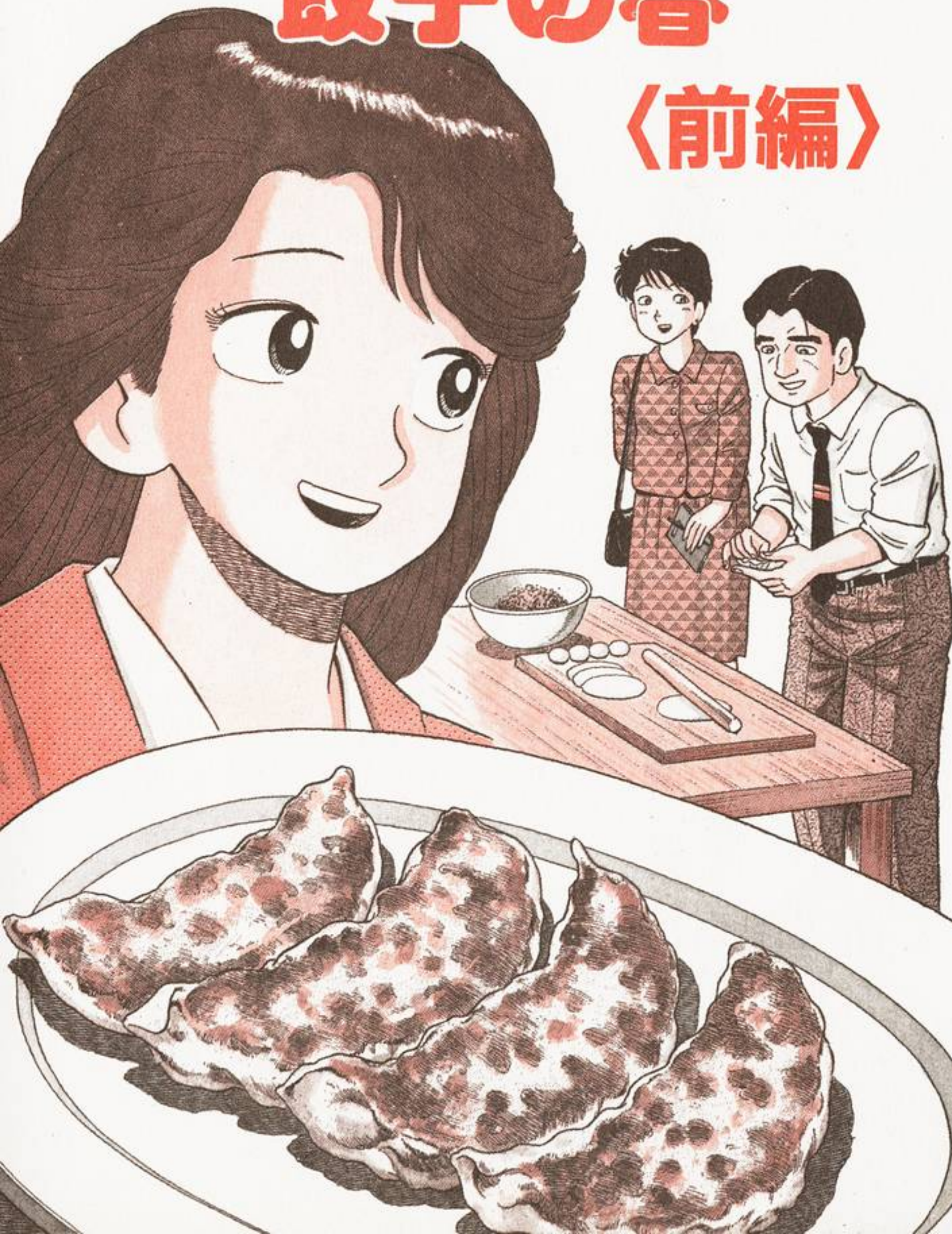
17 エイと鮫(さめ)

第1話　餃子の春(前編)……3
第2話　餃子の春(中編)……25
第3話　餃子の春(後編)……47
第4話　エイと鮫(前編)……69
第5話　エイと鮫(中編)……91
第6話　エイと鮫(後編)……113
第7話　代用ガム……137
第8話　贅沢な献立……159
第9話　海のマツタケご飯……182

第1話

餃子の春

〈前編〉



WE GATHERED TO BRAINSTORM IDEAS FOR A GIFT FOR OUR FRIEND WHO'S GETTING MARRIED SOON!

TODAY, WE'RE GATHERING THE FEMALE EMPLOYEES WHO JOINED THE TOZAI NEWSPAPER AT THE SAME TIME!

HMPH, THOSE WHO ARE FAR FROM ROMANCE WOULDN'T EVEN ENTERTAIN SUCH THOUGHTS!

WOW, HOW BOLD! YOU'RE ACTUALLY THINKING ABOUT THAT?!

WELL, I ALWAYS THINK ABOUT WHAT I'LL WANT WHEN MY TURN COMES AROUND!

CHOOSING A GIFT IS NO EASY FEAT, IS IT?!

OH! HAVE YOU FOUND SOMEONE SPECIAL?

2

SHALL WE GO OUT FOR A MEAL?

NOW THAT I'M RELIEVED, I'M FEELING A BIT HUNGRY!

BUT HEY, AT LEAST THAT MEANS WE'VE DECIDED ON A GIFT, SO I'M RELIEVED!

THAT'S EXACTLY THE PROBLEM! I WONDER IF THERE ARE ANY GOOD MEN OUT THERE?!

DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED, VOLUME 17!

OH NO, YOU CAN'T! A GIRL WHO'S ABOUT TO MARRY SHOULDN'T BE WAFTING GARLIC EVERYWHERE!

OH, I'M SO SORRY! I COULDN'T RESIST HAVING DUMPLINGS FOR LUNCH...

THAT'S JUST GOING TO KEEP YOU FURTHER AWAY FROM A MATCH!

SOUNDS GREAT!

I'VE BEEN MEANING TO SAY IT, BUT YOU REALLY REEK OF GARLIC!!

HEY, YOSHIKO!

OH DEAR, BUT WE HAD DUMPLINGS FOR LUNCH TOO, DIDN'T WE?

SHALL WE GO FOR SOME DUMPLINGS?

JUST HEARING 'DUMPLINGS' MAKES MY STOMACH GROWL EVEN MORE!

3

LET'S GO, LET'S GO!

TOMORROW'S A DAY OFF, SO I DON'T MIND SMELLING LIKE GARLIC AT ALL!

I JUST ADORE DUMPLINGS!

NO, I DON'T MIND AT ALL.

BUT I WONDER WHICH PLACE HAS THE BEST ONES...?

DON'T FORGET, KURITA-SAN IS IN CHARGE OF CRAFTING THE 'ULTIMATE MENU.'

WOW, YOU'RE REALLY CONFIDENT!

IF IT'S A DUMPLING PLACE, LEAVE IT TO ME!

IF YOU TAKE ME TO A WEIRD PLACE, I'LL DEFINITELY COMPLAIN.

EXACTLY! I HEAR YOU'VE BEEN TO TONS OF AMAZING RESTAURANTS,

IS IT REALLY THAT DELICIOUS?

KNOWING THAT KURITA-SAN IS IN THAT LINE OF WORK MAKES ME WANT TO TAKE YOU EVEN MORE.

I'M NOT GOING TO ANY FANCY PLACES WHEN I GO ON MY OWN...

OH, COME ON, COMPLAINING? NOT AT ALL!

WHAT KIND OF PLACE ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?

JUST COUNT ON ME!

NOW, NOW! LET'S NOT SPOIL IT!

DELICIOUSNESS AWAITS!

ISN'T IT A GIVEN THAT CHAIN RESTAURANTS ARE NEVER TASTY?!

OH, SO IT'S 'OHARU'...

餃子チェーン
お春

PLEASE, I'M BEGGING YOU, LET'S EAT HERE...

IT'S NOT THAT BAD!

WELL, THEY FREEZE THEIR COOKED DISHES, AND WHEN YOU ORDER, THEY JUST ZAP IT IN THE MICROWAVE AND VOILA!!

IT'S DEFINITELY FROZEN GYOZA!

5

HEY, YOU NEVER KNOW UNTIL YOU TRY!

COME ON, LET'S GO INSIDE.

THERE MUST BE SO MANY OTHER DELICIOUS PLACES OUT THERE...

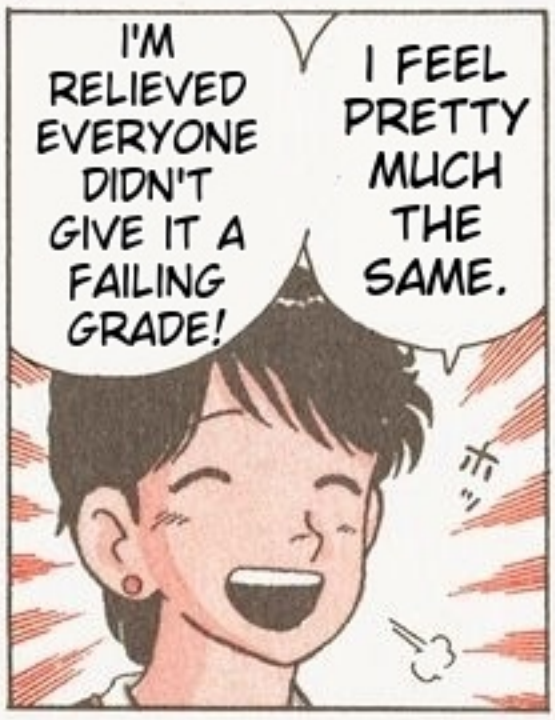
WHY ARE YOU SO HUNG UP ON THIS PLACE?

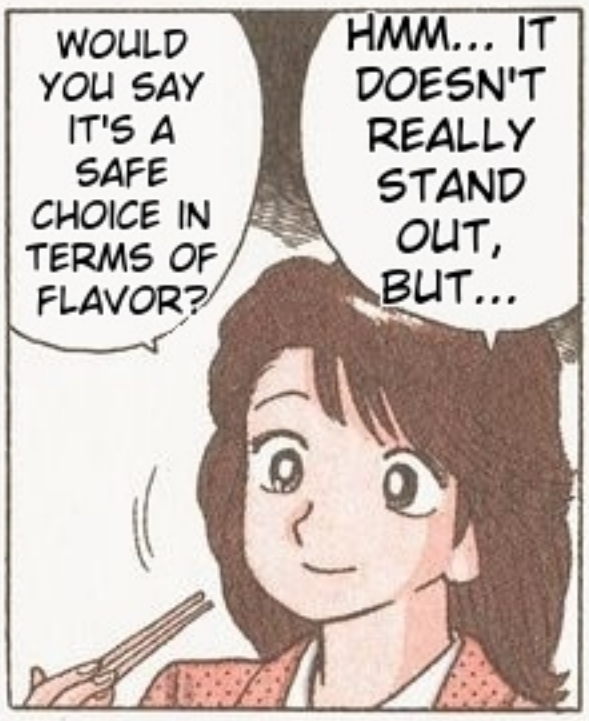
ALRIGHT, I'LL HUMOR YOU JUST THIS ONCE, YOSHIKO!

AT LEAST IT'S NOT FROZEN...
IT'S ACTUALLY BETTER THAN I EXPECTED!

YEAH, IT'S NOT BAD AT ALL!

6


I'M RELIEVED EVERYONE DIDN'T GIVE IT A FAILING GRADE!
I FEEL PRETTY MUCH THE SAME.


WOULD YOU SAY IT'S A SAFE CHOICE IN TERMS OF FLAVOR?
HMM... IT DOESN'T REALLY STAND OUT, BUT...

HOW IS IT, KURITA-SAN?

DELICIOUSNESS OVERLOAD!!!

AND THERE'S A REASON FOR THAT...

SURE, MY DUMPLINGS AREN'T ANYTHING OUT OF THIS WORLD.

I'VE SWITCHED JOBS A FEW TIMES, BUT IT WAS WHEN I STARTED WORKING AT A LITTLE CHINESE RESTAURANT AT THE AGE OF 18 THAT I FINALLY FOUND MY GROOVE.

I HAD TO START WORKING RIGHT AFTER FINISHING MIDDLE SCHOOL.

WE FELL IN LOVE, AND THAT SPARKED A DREAM IN ME TO OPEN MY OWN SHOP.

MY WIFE WAS WORKING THERE AS A STAFF MEMBER.

BUT THAT'S WHERE I MET MY WIFE.

.....

DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED, VOLUME 17!

WE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE BETTER TO START SMALL TOGETHER THAN TO OFFER A LONG LIST OF DISHES.

WE DECIDED RIGHT FROM THE START TO FOCUS SOLELY ON GYOZA FOR OUR MENU.

THAT'S WHEN MY WIFE CRAFTED THE FLAVOR OF OUR GYOZA.

WHEN I WAS 22, I GOT MARRIED AND OPENED A LITTLE SHOP AT THE SAME TIME.

MY WIFE AND I HAVE LIVED FRUGALLY, SAVING EVERY PENNY,

GYOZA!

LET'S STOP CHASING AFTER THAT EXTRAORDINARY TASTE THAT WOULD IMPRESS CULINARY EXPERTS, AND INSTEAD, LET'S BE SATISFIED WITH THE SIMPLE PLEASURES OF EVERYDAY FLAVORS...

THAT'S RIGHT. MY WIFE SAYS SHE WANTS AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE TO ENJOY NUTRITIOUS AND DELICIOUS FOOD AT AN AFFORDABLE PRICE...

WELL, YOUR WIFE IS...

SHE TRULY IS AN AMAZING PARTNER...

I THINK THAT'S A WONDERFUL SENTIMENT...

THAT'S EXACTLY THE TASTE WE GOT!

IT MAY NOT BE A FEAST, BUT IT'S SATISFYING ENOUGH, RIGHT?

THE CUSTOMERS FLOCKED IN, AND THE SHOP FLOURISHED BEAUTIFULLY.

JUST AS MY WIFE SAID, 'OHARU'S' GYOZA HAS THE TASTE OF EVERYDAY LIFE AND IS AFFORDABLY PRICED,

?

I'VE NOTICED SOMETHING OFF ABOUT MORISAWA-SAN FOR A WHILE NOW...

AND JUST LIKE THAT, SHE SUCCUMBED TO A GRAVE ILLNESS AND LEFT THIS WORLD...

PERHAPS DUE TO WORKING TOO HARD, MY WIFE FELL ILL...

HOWEVER,

I CONTEMPLATED FOLLOWING MY WIFE INTO THE BEYOND, TIME AND AGAIN...

MY HEART SHATTERED INTO PIECES AT THE LOSS OF MY WIFE.

OH, SO YOUR WIFE HAS PASSED AWAY?!!

WHAT UNFORTUNATE LUCK...

THE SHOP WAS JUST STARTING TO HIT ITS STRIDE, WASN'T IT?!

SO, I CAME TO REALIZE THAT MAKING THE SHOP FLOURISH WAS MY WAY OF COMFORTING HER SPIRIT...

IF I WERE TO PASS AWAY, THE SHOP THAT MY BELOVED WIFE POURED HER HEART AND SOUL INTO WOULD VANISH ALONG WITH ME...

BUT I COULDN'T BRING MYSELF TO DIE...

THEN WHAT WAS THE PURPOSE OF HER TOILING AWAY WITH EVERY OUNCE OF HER LIFE...?

THANKS TO THOSE EFFORTS, OUR SHOP THRIVED AND GREW INTO MULTIPLE BRANCHES.

I WORKED TIRELESSLY, FOR THE ONLY WAY TO DROWN OUT MY SORROW WAS THROUGH HARD WORK.

THAT'S PRECISELY WHY I COULDN'T LET THIS SHOP CRUMBLE.

MY WIFE'S NAME WAS HARUKO, AND I AFFECTIONATELY CALLED HER OHARU. I DECIDED TO HONOR HER BY NAMING THE SHOP AFTER HER.

WHEN 'OHARU' THRIVES AND EXPANDS, IT FEELS AS IF HER LEGACY IS BEING CARRIED ON...

THIS FLAVOR, CRAFTED BY MY WIFE, HAS BEEN OUR CORNERSTONE, MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE TO CHANGE.

11

THEN, WHAT ABOUT THE NAME 'OHARU' ITSELF...?

BUT NOT A SINGLE DAY GOES BY THAT I DON'T THINK OF MY WIFE.

!

WHEN DID SHE PASS AWAY?

IT'S BEEN 15 YEARS.

COME ON, LET'S LIGHTEN THE MOOD AND HAVE A BLAST, SHALL WE?!

APOLOGIES FOR DRAGGING US INTO SUCH A GLOOMY CONVERSATION.

.....

12

TELL ME, WHAT ABOUT YAMAWAKI-SAN...

MORISAWA-SAN,

TAXI

DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED, VOLUME 17!

IT WAS CLEAR FROM YOUR EARLIER STORY JUST HOW DEEP THAT FEELING RUNS.

EVER SINCE THEN, I'VE BEEN COMPLETELY CAPTIVATED BY MR. YAMAWAKI...

I WENT TO MEET MR. YAMAWAKI FOR AN ARTICLE THAT DIVES INTO THE REAL FACES OF UNIQUE INDIVIDUALS THRIVING IN VARIOUS FIELDS... WHEN YOU THINK OF FOUNDERS OF RAPIDLY GROWING COMPANIES, YOU OFTEN PICTURE FIERY, INTENSE PERSONALITIES, BUT MANY OF THEM TEND TO LACK DEPTH OF SPIRIT...

BUT MR. YAMAWAKI IS DIFFERENT.

.....

WHEN THE ONE YOU'RE LONGING FOR IS NO LONGER HERE, THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO.

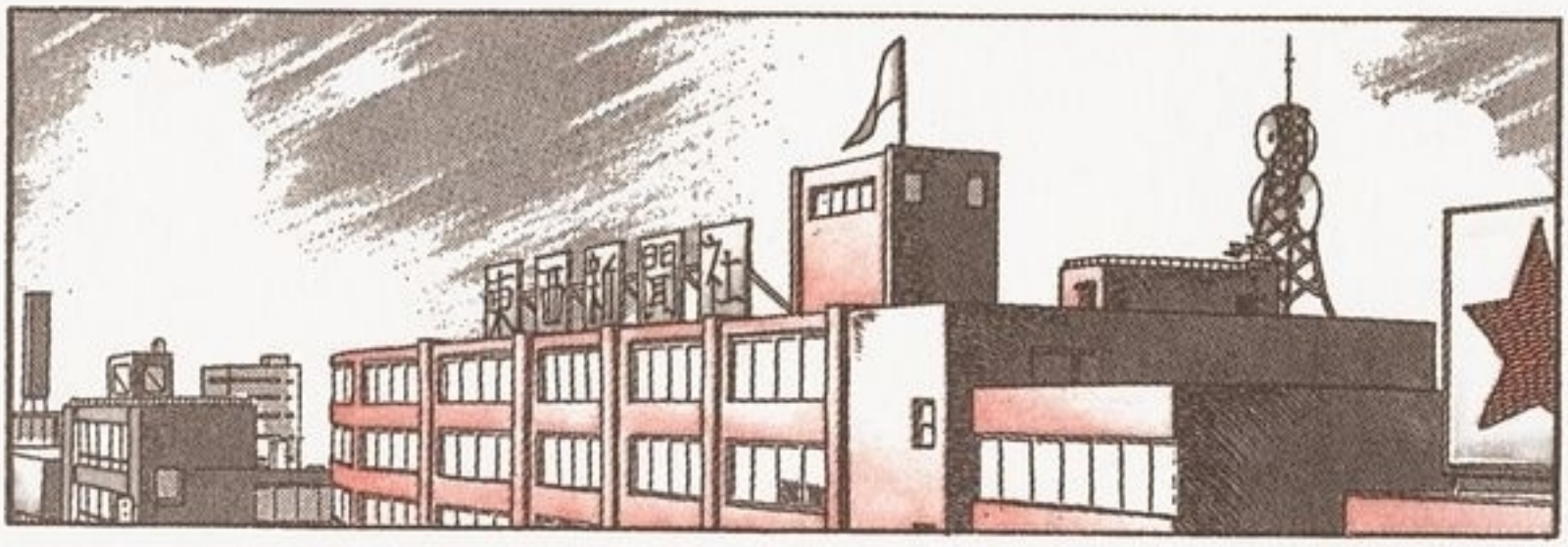
WHY WOULD YOU THINK THAT?

YET, I KNOW IT'S FUTILE.

THERE'S NO ROOM FOR SOMEONE LIKE ME TO STEP IN...

BECAUSE MR. YAMAWAKI'S HEART IS STILL FILLED WITH THE MEMORY OF HIS LATE WIFE....

I...!!


東西新聞社

DO YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW ANYONE WHO'S AN EXPERT ON DUMPLINGS?
I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK.

KURITA!
OH, MORISAWA!

AN EXPERT ON DUMPLINGS?

COMPETE? OH, THAT'S A BIT MUCH...

SO, YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO COMPETE WITH YAMAWAKI'S LATE WIFE, HUH?
IS THAT SO!

YAMAWAKI ASKED ME!
IF YOU KNOW ANYTHING, PLEASE SHARE!
HE DID?!

DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED, VOLUME 17!

SNORE

ALRIGHT THEN.

BUT THIS IS MY CHANCE TO HELP YAMAWAKI-SAN!

THE SKIN IS CRISPY AND CHEWY... AND WHEN YOU BITE IN, THE DELICIOUS JUICE BURSTS OUT...

DUMPLINGS, DUMPLINGS, DUMPLINGS, DUMPLINGS...

UGH...

MUMU

MUMU

15

HEY, HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOZING OFF FOR?!

THE UFO OF DUMPLINGS IS HERE TO INVADE EARTH!!

IT'S DUMPLING TIME!!

AH... JUST A DREAM...

HUH? HMM?...

I FEEL LIKE I MIGHT JUST WITHER AWAY IF I DON'T DEVOUR SOME DUMPLINGS RIGHT NOW!

WHAT IN THE WORLD IS GOING ON?!

HMM... I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I'M SUDDENLY CRAVING DUMPLINGS LIKE CRAZY!

PHEW, I'M SO HUNGRY -AH!

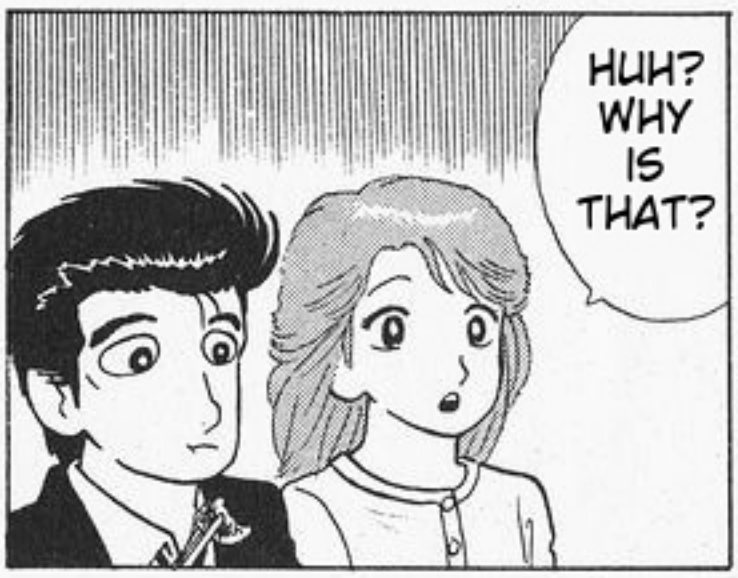
グゥ～～

GYAAAAH-GEEZA!

WELL, I SUPPOSE THAT'S QUITE THE RIGHT APPROACH FOR A PLACE THAT CATERS TO THE MASSES.

I SEE, IT'S A FLAVOR THAT FEELS JUST LIKE HOME...

餃子チェーン
お春

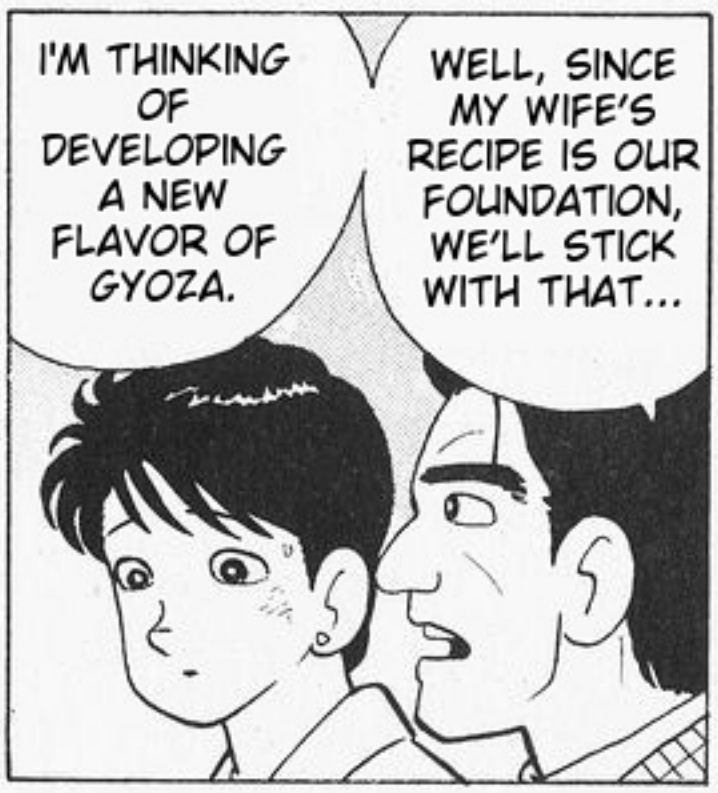

HUH? WHY IS THAT?

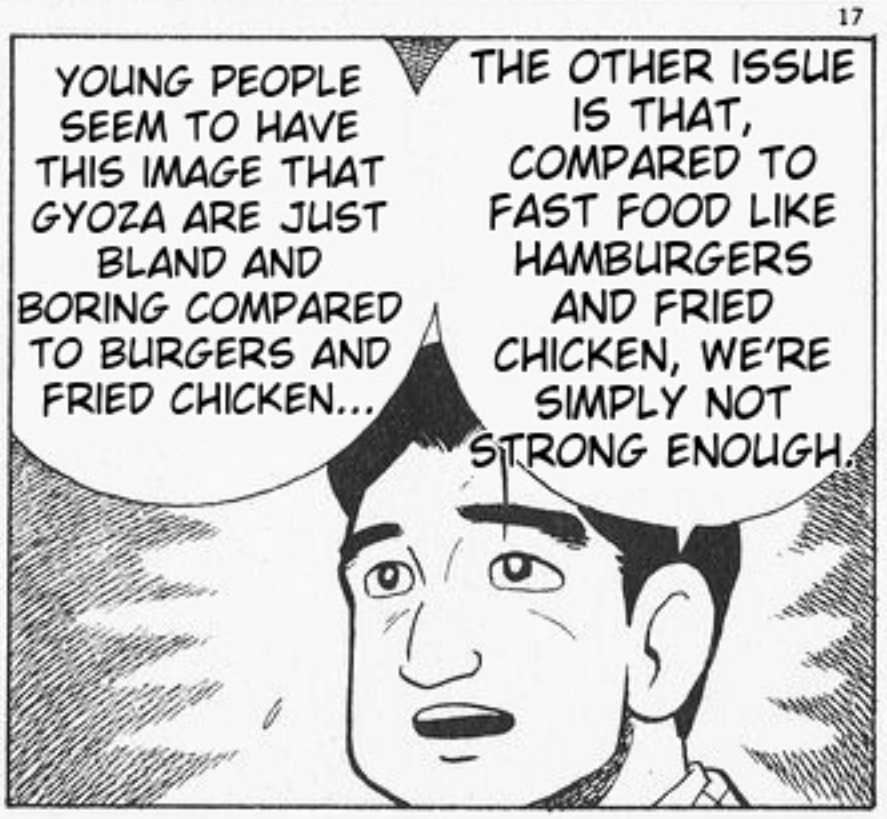
THAT ALONE WON'T KEEP US AFLOAT IN THE LONG RUN.
TRUE, WE'VE MANAGED TO GET BY WITH WHAT WE HAVE UNTIL NOW.

IF WE DON'T CREATE A NOTICEABLE DIFFERENCE, WE'LL BE OUTMATCHED BY THEIR FINANCIAL POWER.
WE'RE CONFIDENT IN THE SUPERIOR QUALITY OF OUR PRODUCT, BUT...

SEVERAL GYOZA CHAINS HAVE STARTED TO POP UP, AND THE COMPETITION AMONG GYOZA SHOPS IS HEATING UP.
ONE REASON IS THE INCREASING NUMBER OF COMPETITORS IN OUR INDUSTRY.
餃子チェーン
GYOUZ
GYOUZ
餃子チェーン
吉田屋

I SEE...
モグ
モグ


I'M THINKING OF DEVELOPING A NEW FLAVOR OF GYOZA.
WELL, SINCE MY WIFE'S RECIPE IS OUR FOUNDATION, WE'LL STICK WITH THAT...


YOUNG PEOPLE SEEM TO HAVE THIS IMAGE THAT GYOZA ARE JUST BLAND AND BORING COMPARED TO BURGERS AND FRIED CHICKEN...
THE OTHER ISSUE IS THAT, COMPARED TO FAST FOOD LIKE HAMBURGERS AND FRIED CHICKEN, WE'RE SIMPLY NOT STRONG ENOUGH.

KURITA!

EMBRACING NEW FLAVORS WON'T BETRAY HER MEMORY.

IT'S BEEN FIFTEEN YEARS SINCE YOUR WIFE DIED...

HUH?

.....

I FEEL A DEEP SENSE OF REGRET TOWARDS MORISAWA-SAN...

I TRULY UNDERSTAND THE MEANING BEHIND YOUR WORDS.

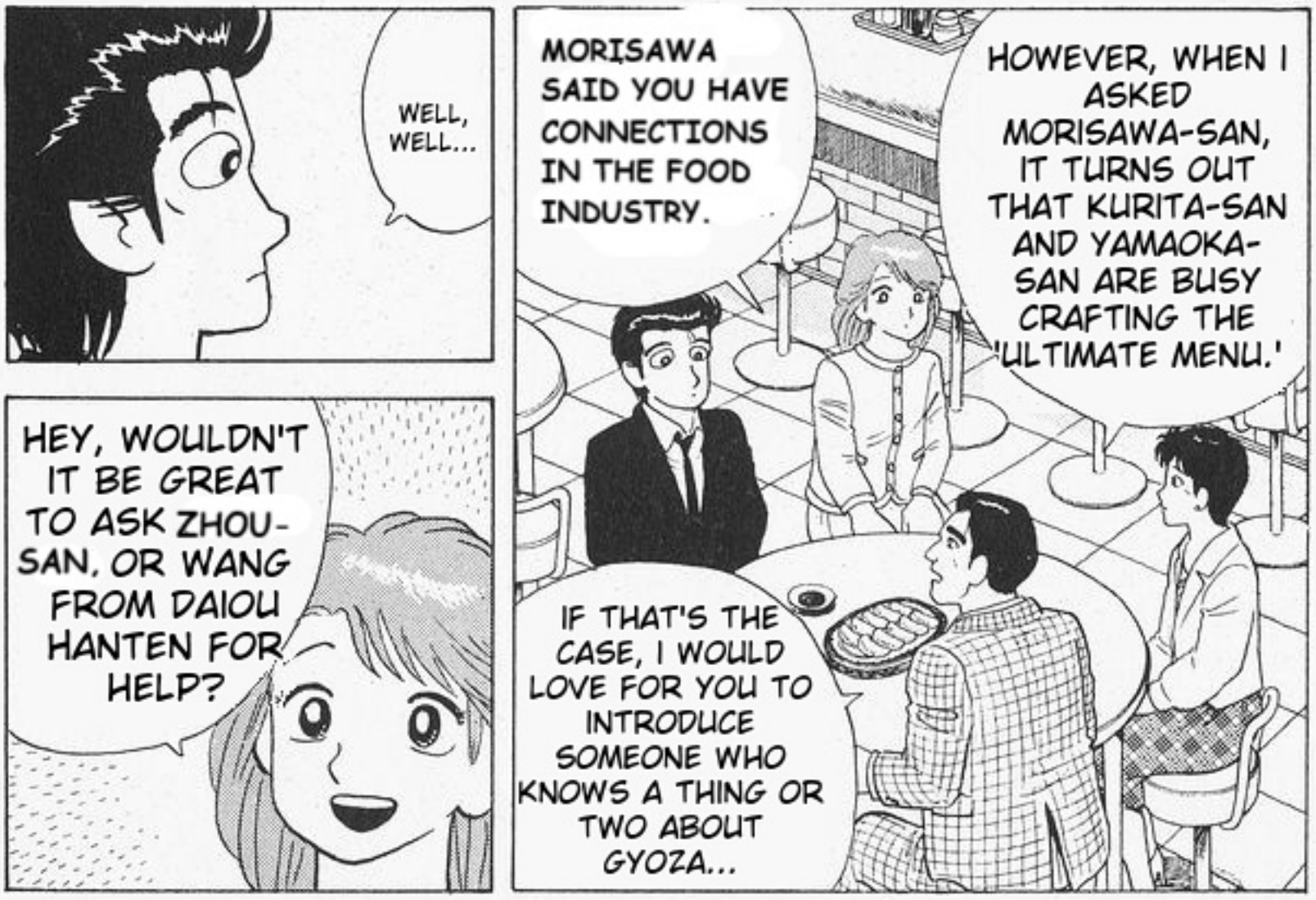
I BELIEVE A NEW PATH MIGHT OPEN UP IN MY LIFE.

IF I COULD CREATE THOSE NEW DUMPLINGS...

AND THERE'S MORE TO IT...

BUT RIGHT NOW, MY MIND IS COMPLETELY CONSUMED BY THE THOUGHT OF CRAFTING NEW DUMPLINGS...

THAT'S WHY WE HAVE TO MAKE THIS WORK, NO MATTER WHAT!
YAMAOKA-SAN!
YAMAWAKI-SAN...!!
I'VE BEEN SO CONSUMED WITH EXPANDING MY BUSINESS OVER THE PAST 15 YEARS THAT I'VE BECOME QUITE NARROW-MINDED...
I THOUGHT ABOUT CONSULTING CULINARY EXPERTS AND FOOD CONSULTANTS, BUT...
WHAT ON EARTH...?
ハッ!


WELL, WELL...
MORISAWA SAID YOU HAVE CONNECTIONS IN THE FOOD INDUSTRY.
HOWEVER, WHEN I ASKED MORISAWA-SAN, IT TURNS OUT THAT KURITA-SAN AND YAMAOKA-SAN ARE BUSY CRAFTING THE 'ULTIMATE MENU.'
HEY, WOULDN'T IT BE GREAT TO ASK ZHOU-SAN, OR WANG FROM DAIOU HANTEN FOR HELP?
IF THAT'S THE CASE, I WOULD LOVE FOR YOU TO INTRODUCE SOMEONE WHO KNOWS A THING OR TWO ABOUT GYOZA...

THE ULTIMATE GYOZA!

WAIT?!?

HMM, SO YOU'RE SAYING I NEED TO CREATE THE ULTIMATE GYOZA, RIGHT?

LET'S BREAK DOWN THE CURRENT GYOZA THAT YOU SELL...

WAIT A SECOND, BEFORE WE DIVE IN...

AH, AS FAR AS CORPORATE STRATEGY GOES, THAT'S BRILLIANT!

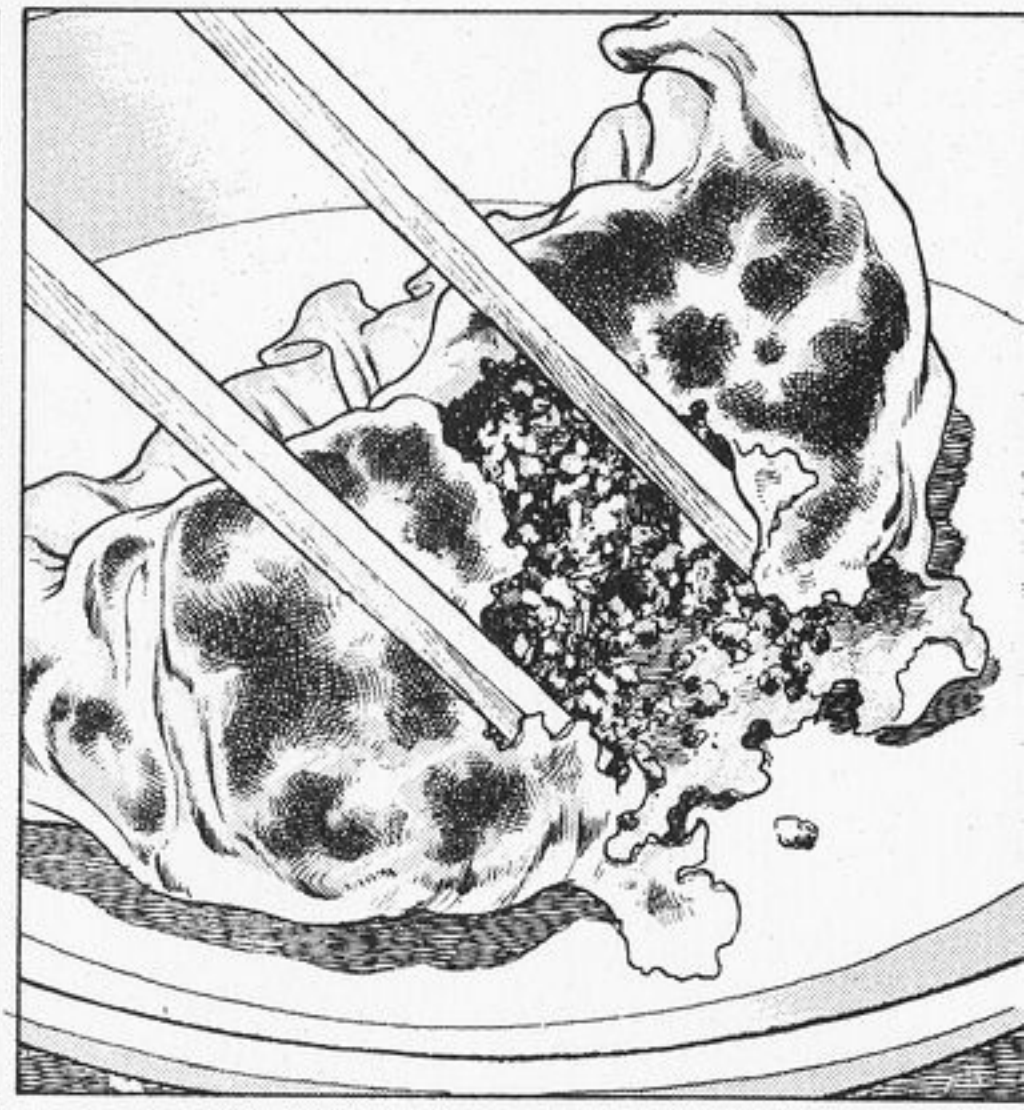
IMAGINE SELLING THE ABSOLUTE BEST GYOZA– THEN THE NAME OHARU WILL SOAR IN EVERYONE'S MINDS!

FIRST UP, THE GYOZA WRAPPERS –WHAT ABOUT THEM?

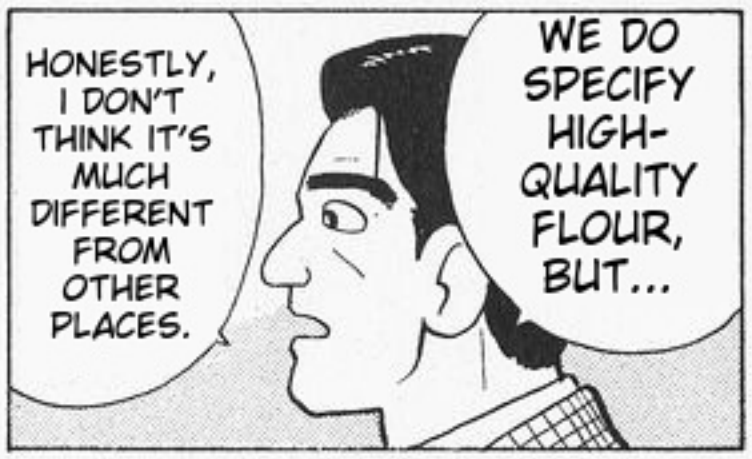
20

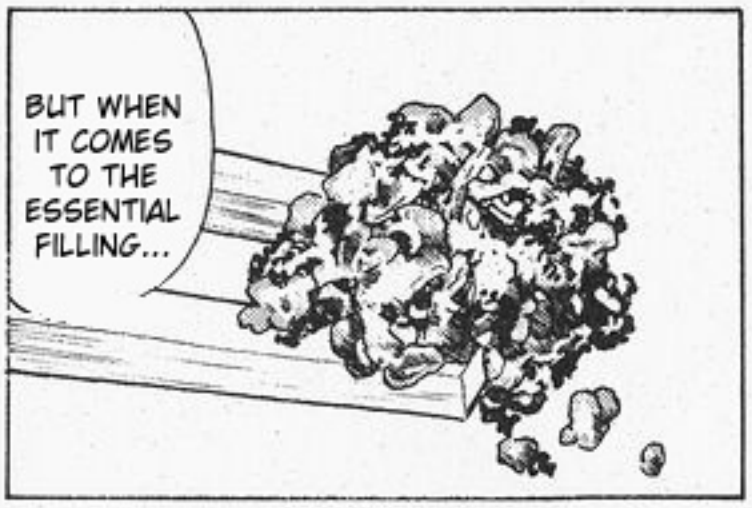
GOT IT! SO THE WRAPPERS ARE NO DIFFERENT FROM OTHER PLACES' GYOZA.

ABSOLUTELY! WE SOURCE OUR GYOZA AND SPRING ROLL WRAPPERS FROM SPECIALIZED SUPPLIERS.



DELICIOUSNESS AWAITS!





YAMAOKA-SAN, PLEASE FIND SOMEONE WHO CAN HANDLE THAT.

DON'T BE SO DOWNCAST!

YAMAOKA-SAN...

CAN'T YOU WORK SOMETHING OUT...?

THERE'S NO WAY I'M LETTING ANYONE ELSE DO SOMETHING THAT EXCITING!!

ニヤ

I'LL WHIP UP THE ULTIMATE GYOZA MYSELF!

第1話

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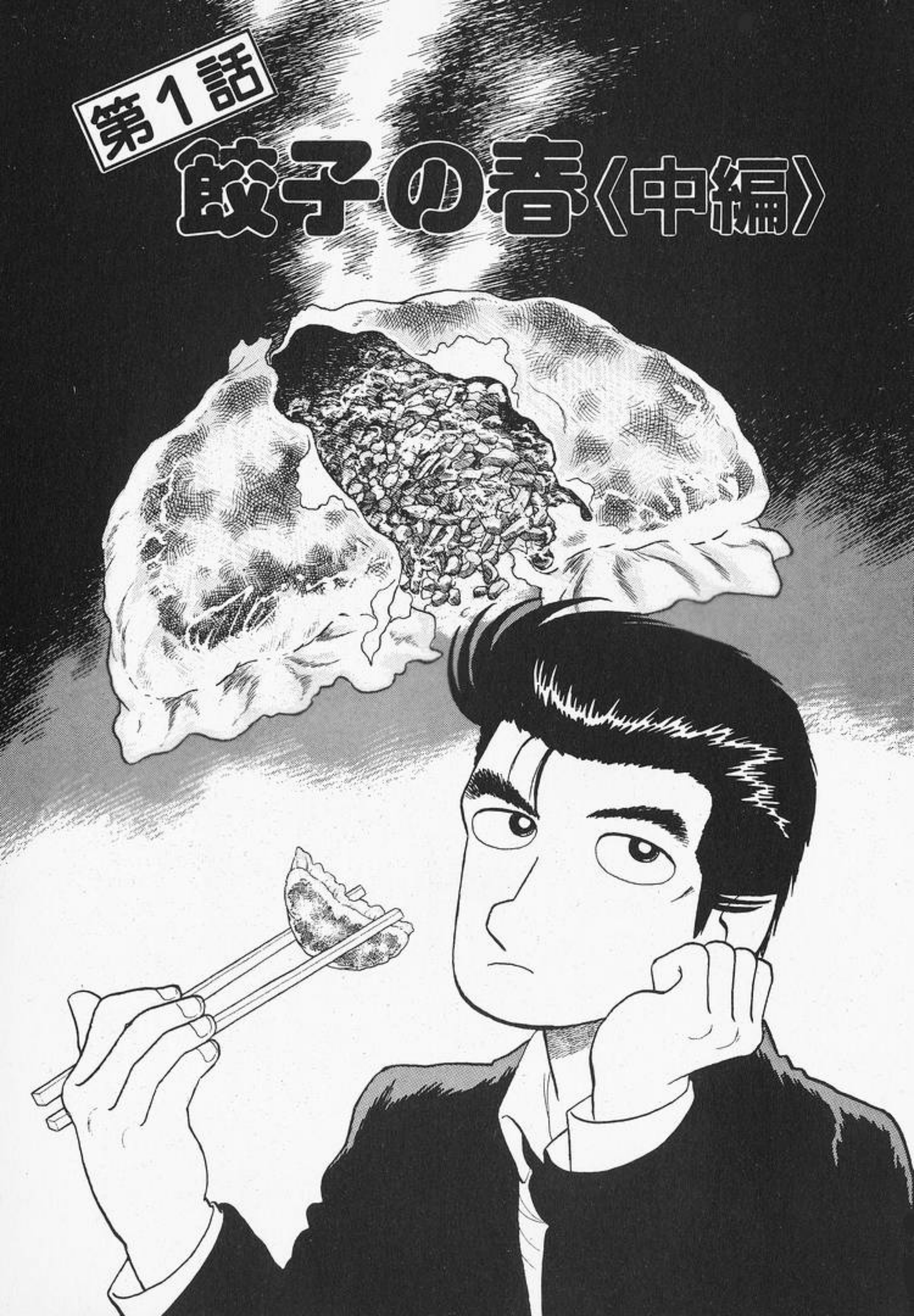

YUKO!! YOU ARE ABSOLUTELY FORBIDDEN FROM GOING OUT TODAY!

栗田

HOW CAN YOU EXPECT TO GET MARRIED ONE DAY IF YOU STRUT AROUND WITH GARLIC ON YOUR BREATH?!

I'M NOT JOKING, YUKO!!!

GRANDMA, PLEASE, NO MORE JOKES! I'M GOING TO BE LATE!

OH!

2

IF IT'S THAT PUNGENT, IT'LL KEEP THE CREEPS AWAY JUST FINE!

BUT IF YOU LET THAT SMELL OUT, YOU'LL SCARE AWAY ANY POTENTIAL SUITORS!

SO, TODAY, YOU'RE GROUNDED!

LAST NIGHT, I HAD SOME DELICIOUS GYOZA WITH YAMAOKA-SAN AND MORISAWA-SAN, SO...

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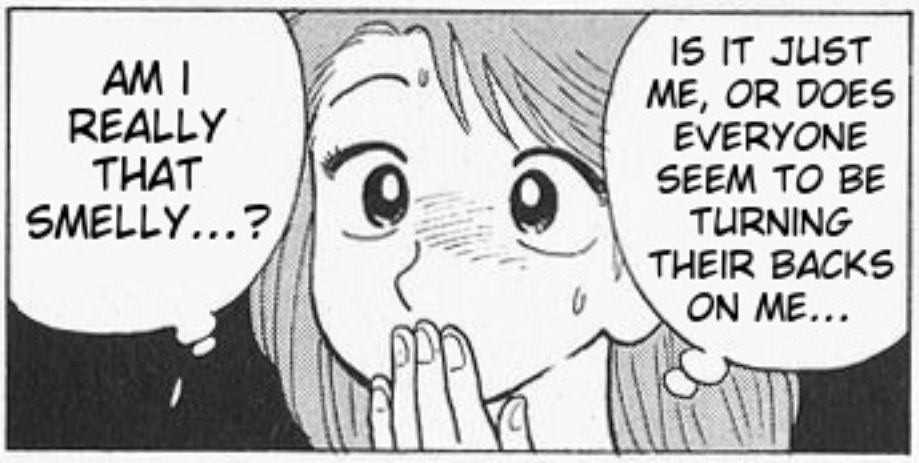
HEY, YOU! WHAT'S THE DEAL!?
I'M OFF TO ADVENTURE!

EH?

450


AM I REALLY THAT SMELLY...?
IS IT JUST ME, OR DOES EVERYONE SEEM TO BE TURNING THEIR BACKS ON ME...

3

UGH~~, THAT STINKS! SO BAD!!

JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN MEDDLE IN OUR PRIVATE LIVES!

THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!

TRY PUTTING YOURSELF IN OUR SHOES, BEING ASSAULTED BY THAT STINKY BREATH! IT'S A TOTAL WORK DISRUPTION!

YOU'RE A WALKING STINK BOMB!

JUST HOW MUCH GARLIC DID YOU DEVOUR?!

WITH YOU IN THE ROOM, THE WHOLE PLACE REEKS!!!

CUT IT OUT! IT'S UNBEARABLE!

GET BACK HERE!!!

YIKES! IT'S SO FOUL!

4

OH DEAR...

DELICIOUSNESS CHRONICLES 17

I THINK YOU SHOULD WEAR A MASK TOO, MORISAWA-SAN...

NO, IT'S NOT THAT...

ME? WHAT FOR?

DID YOU CATCH A COLD OR SOMETHING?

WELL, KURITA-SAN, WHAT'S GOING ON?

OH, SURE!

HEY, THERE'S A PLACE I WANT YOU TO JOIN ME FOR LUNCH...

WELL, I'LL EXPLAIN THAT LATER. DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND?

OH, RIGHT... I'LL NEED TO DOUBLE UP ON MY MASKS THIS AFTERNOON...

カ" "カ"

OH, WHAT'S THE MATTER?

PLEASE DON'T TELL ME WE'RE GOING TO THAT DUMPLING PLACE AGAIN?!

5

DING DING! YOU GOT IT RIGHT!

WHOA! LOOK AT THAT LINE STRETCHING OUT THE DOOR!

VECWIC

餃子チェーン 一本槍

A HUNDRED TYPES OF GYOZA, CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?

ONE HUNDRED VARIETIES OF GYOZA!

6

YAMAWAKI'S PLACE ONLY HAS ONE TYPE, AFTER ALL.

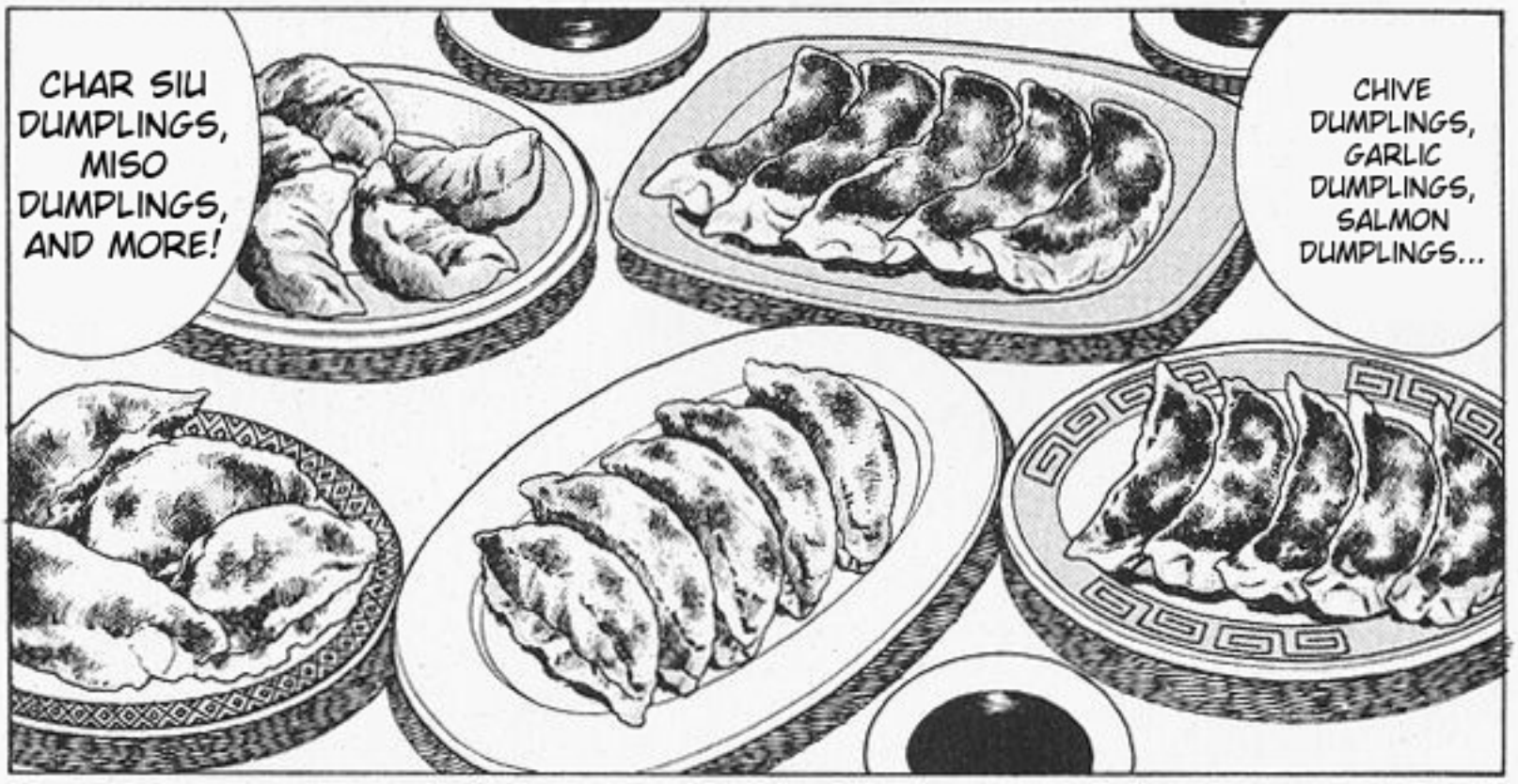
HAVING A HUNDRED VARIETIES IS JUST AMAZING, ISN'T IT?

THEY'RE OPENING BRANCHES LEFT AND RIGHT!

THIS PLACE IS REALLY BOOMING RIGHT NOW.

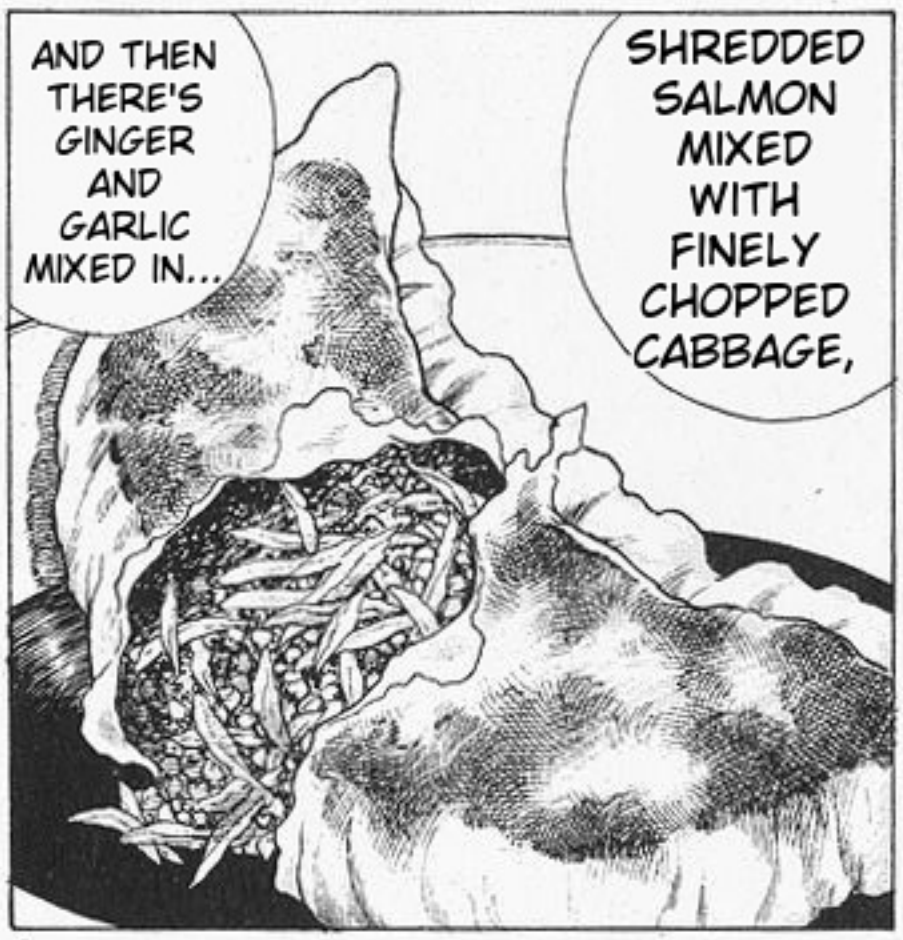
THAT'S A FIERCE COMPETITOR FOR YAMAWAKI'S SHOP.

DELICIOUSNESS CHRONICLES 17

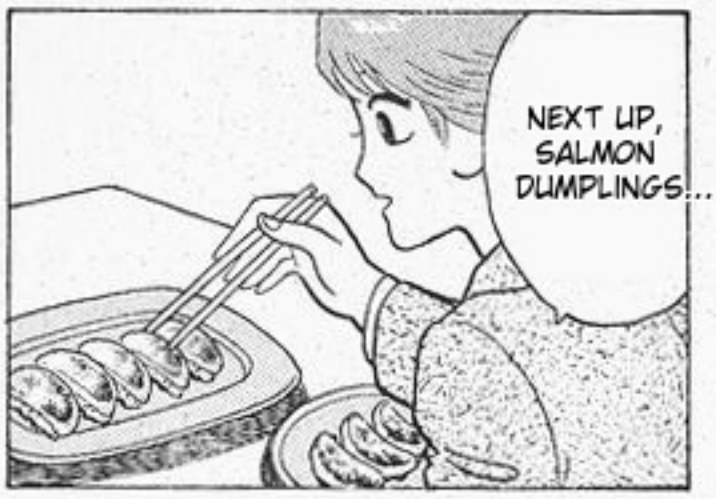


NOT TOO SHABBY AT ALL!
WOW, THAT'S INTENSE!

LET'S SEE HOW IT IS.
OH WOW, IT'S PACKED WITH MINCED CHIVES!


AND THEN THERE'S GINGER AND GARLIC MIXED IN...
SHREDDED SALMON MIXED WITH FINELY CHOPPED CABBAGE,

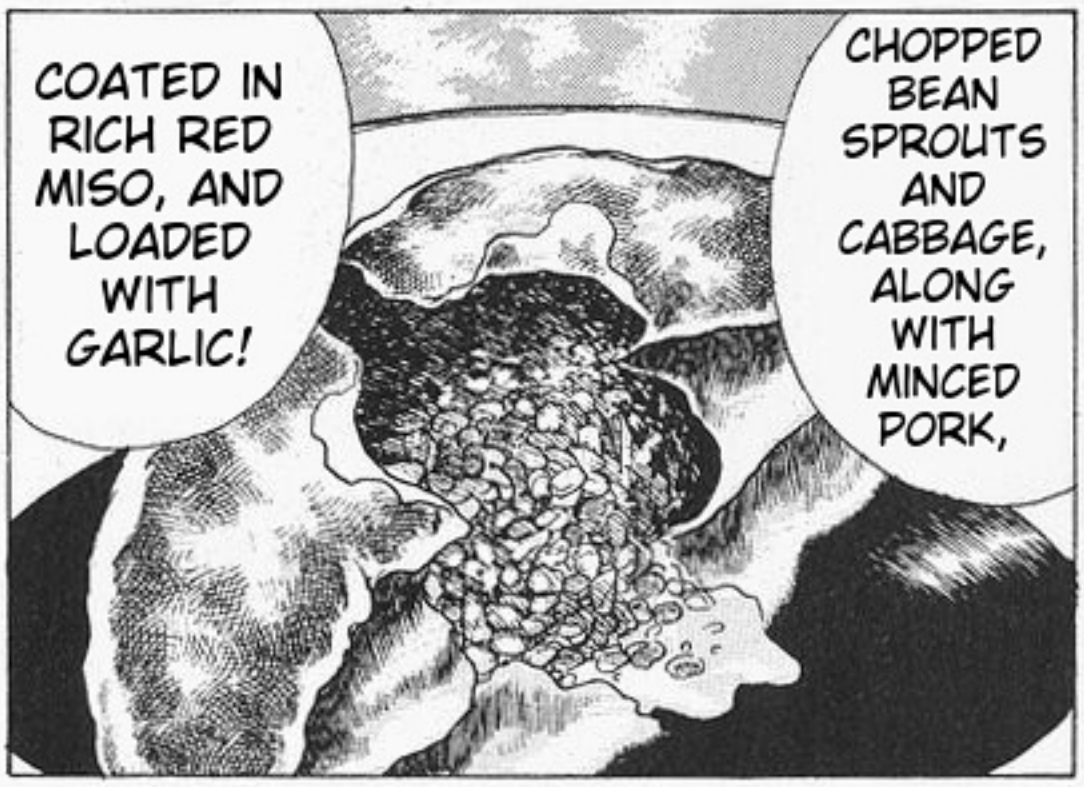
HMM, THE TASTE IS SIMPLE, BUT IT'S NOT BAD AT ALL.


NEXT UP, SALMON DUMPLINGS...

QUITE THE BRAINWAVE YOU HAD THERE...
BUT OH, THE SALMON AROMA WAFTS THROUGH THE AIR... I BET SALMON LOVERS WOULD BE THRILLED!

THAT'S A UNIQUE FLAVOR!
THE FILLING MIGHT BE A BIT WEAK IF IT'S JUST SALMON, DON'T YOU THINK?

DELICIOUSNESS CHRONICLES 17



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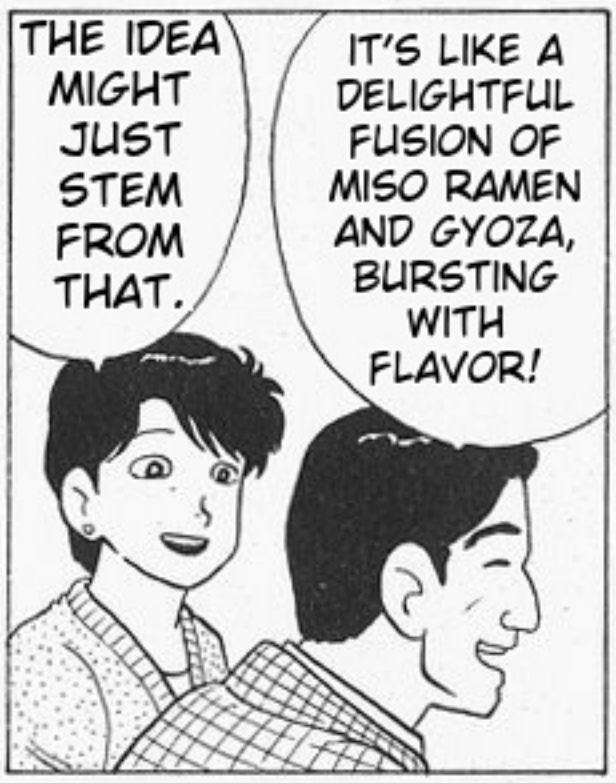


I'LL PASS ON THAT!

BOOM! JUST GARLIC CHOPPED FINER THAN A WHISPER!

MY TASTE BUDS ARE ON FIRE!

WHOA-THIS IS INCREDIBLE!

ISN'T THAT YAMAWAKI-SAN, THE PRESIDENT OF GYOZA 'OHARU'?

10

YOU MUST BE FEELING QUITE THE SENSE OF URGENCY!

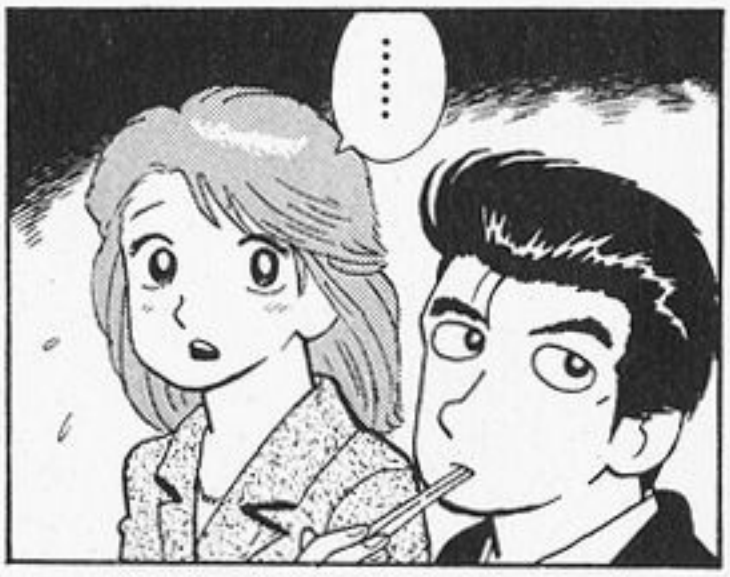
YAMAWAKI-SAN, YOU'RE PERSONALLY SCOUTING THE COMPETITION, HUH?

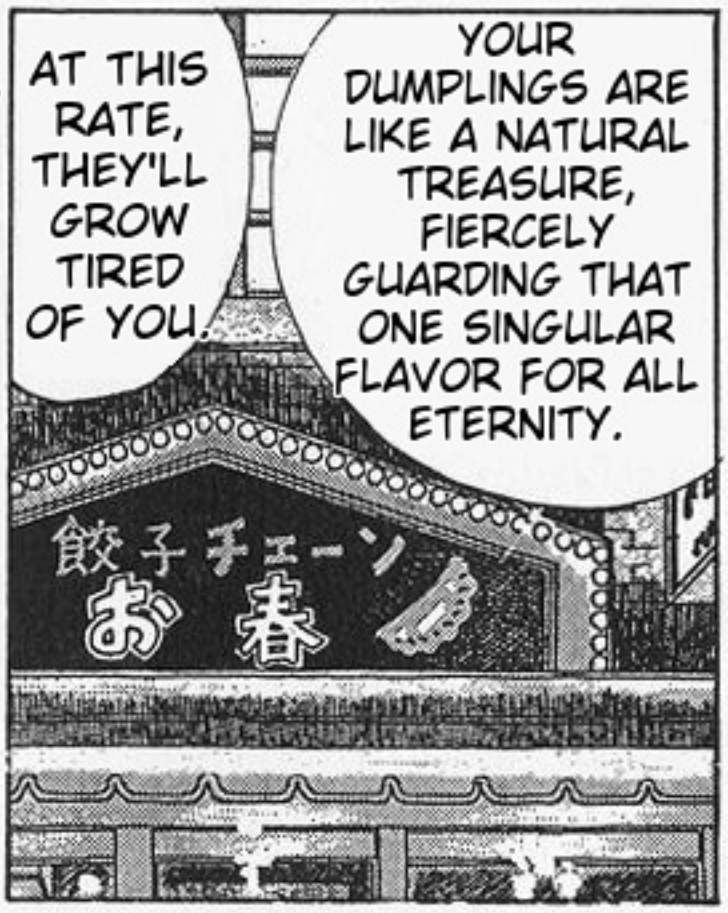
HEY THERE, PRESIDENT NIKODA.

3

WOW, SO THIS PERSON IS THE HEAD HONCHO OF THIS PLACE?

DELICIOUSNESS CHRONICLES 17





PEOPLE WILL GET BORED OF THIS IN NO TIME!

EVEN IF YOU BOAST ABOUT HAVING A HUNDRED KINDS OF GYOZA, IT'S JUST A GIMMICK, NOTHING BUT A NOVELTY TO SELL!

・ニラ餃子 ……¥500
・ニンニク餃子 ……¥500
・チャーシュー餃子 ……¥550
・鮭 餃子 ……¥500
・ミソ餃子 ……¥450

CELERY IS A... UM, NEVER MIND...

I'M NOT JOKING! THERE'S NOTHING WORTH STEALING FROM YOU!

ガヲ

HMPH, SO THIS IS WHAT YOU CALL DEVELOPMENT? SNEAKING IN TO STEAL OUR TASTE?

WE CAN INNOVATE JUST AS WELL AS YOU CAN!

WELL, WHILE YOU'RE STILL CATCHING UP, WE'LL BE BUSY CREATING NEW GYOZA!

OH, LOOK WHO'S TALKING! YOUR GYOZA HAS LONG BEEN FORGOTTEN, BUT HERE YOU ARE, ACTING ALL HIGH AND MIGHTY!

THIS IS A COMPETITION YOU CAN'T WIN.

HOW RUDE! YOUR ARROGANCE KNOWS NO BOUNDS!

12

I'M HERE TO FIND OUT JUST HOW MUCH YOU'VE COPIED OUR FLAVOR!

HEH HEH, OF COURSE I'LL BE JOINING YOU!

WE'RE LAUNCHING OUR OWN NEW GYOZA SOON! WHEN THE TIME COMES, I'LL INVITE YOU, SO MAKE SURE TO COME AND TASTE IT!!

DELICIOUSNESS CHRONICLES 17

13

WELL, THIS IS QUITE UNEXPECTED.

SHIRO!

AH.

SORRY, SHIRO, I MUST TAKE MY LEAVE NOW.

14

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Y-YES, SORRY, SENSEI.

NAKAGAWA, WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU DOING?!

DELICIOUSNESS CHRONICLES 17

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M SAYING THIS, BUT TO THINK HE WOULD VISIT A HUMBLE DUMPLING SHOP!

I THOUGHT HE ONLY DINED AT HIGH-END **RESTAURANTS**.

YES, INDEED.

ISN'T THAT THE ILLUSTRIOUS CHEF **KAIBARA YUZAN** HIMSELF?

JUST BECAUSE YUZAN VISITED THIS PLACE DOESN'T MEAN ANYTHING AT ALL!!!

YOUR PLACE ISN'T NECESSARILY INFERIOR!

BUT IF HE COULD GAIN THE APPROVAL OF KAIBARA YUZAN, IT WOULD BE A GAME CHANGER!

DON'T GET CAUGHT UP IN SUCH LOFTY TRADITIONS; YOU MUST DEVOUR DELICIOUSNESS WITH UNRESTRAINED ZEAL.

THAT'S THE REMARKABLE THING ABOUT **KAIBARA YUZAN**...

MY SHOP MUST BE INFERIOR

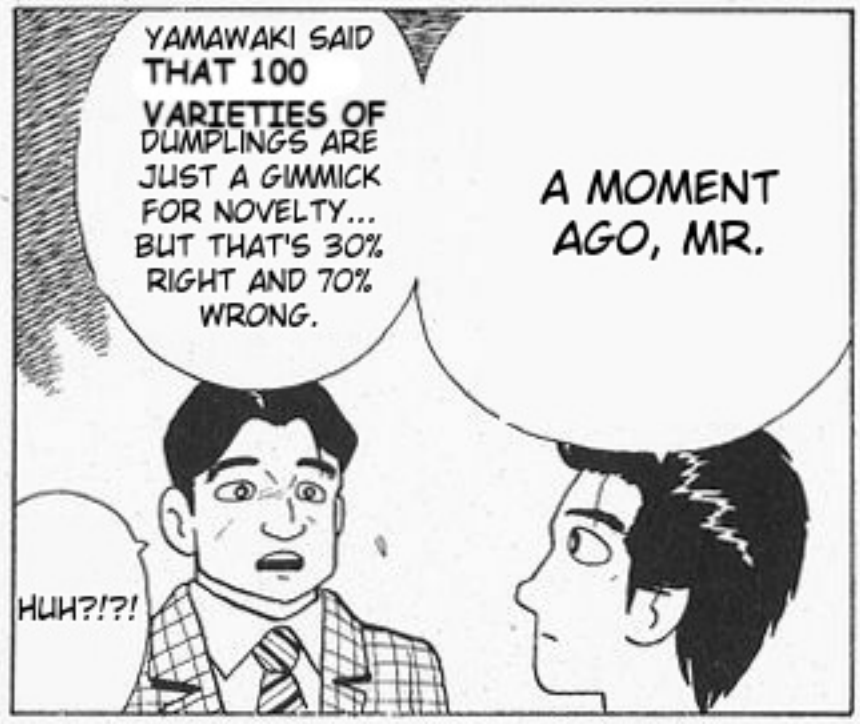
SO, THE PREEMINENT CULINARY CONNOISSEUR OF OUR TIME HAS TAKEN A LIKING TO THIS PLACE.

PLEASE LEND ME YOUR STRENGTH!

PLEASE, YAMAOKA-SAN!

I TOO WANT TO CRAFT DUMPLINGS THAT WOULD EARN THE RECOGNITION OF CHEF **KAIBARA**.

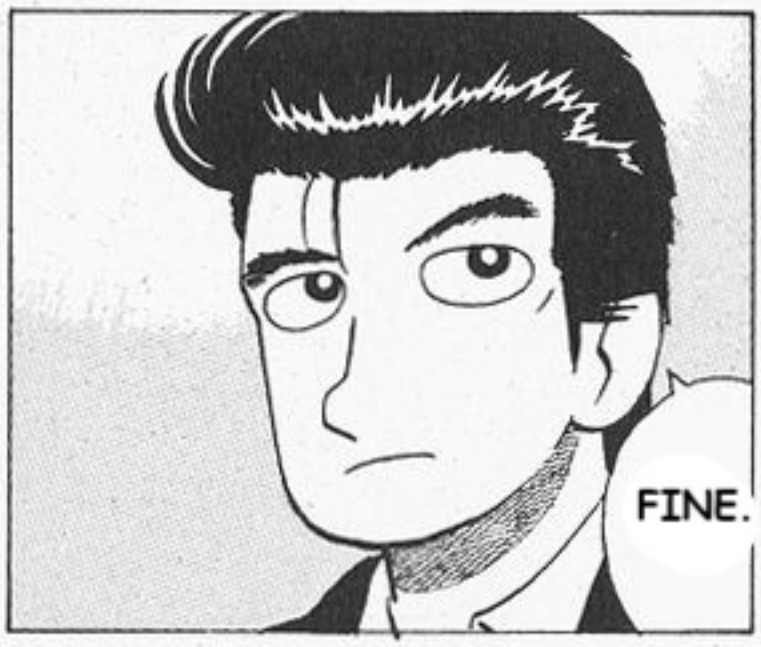
EVERYTHING'S PRETTY DECENT, REALLY.
一本槍
100種類の
WELL, IT MAY BE AN ODDITY, BUT THE TASTE ISN'T BAD AT ALL.


YAMAWAKI SAID THAT 100 VARIETIES OF DUMPLINGS ARE JUST A GIMMICK FOR NOVELTY... BUT THAT'S 30% RIGHT AND 70% WRONG.
A MOMENT AGO, MR.
HUH?!?!

PLEASE!
YAMAOKA-SAN, YOU PROMISED TO CREATE THE ULTIMATE DUMPLING, DIDN'T YOU?

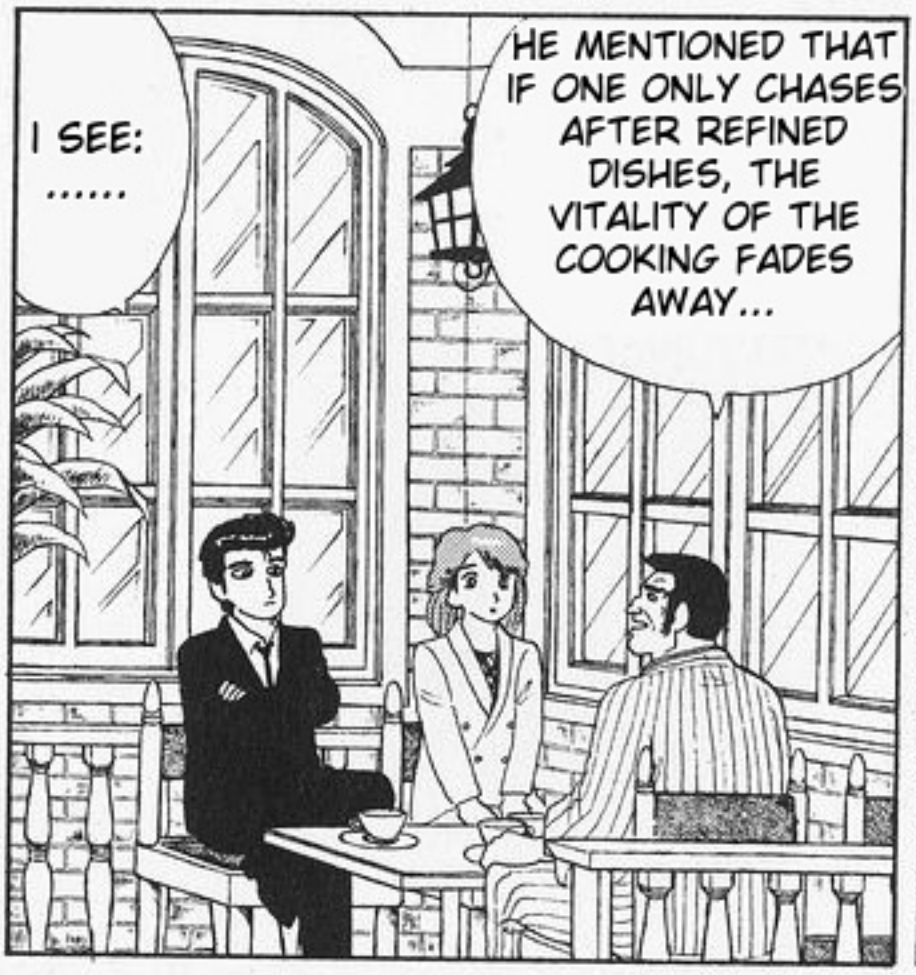
AFTER ALL, IT RISKS BEING SEEN AS A MERE IMITATION OF THE 100 VARIETY STYLE.
SO, DEVELOPING A DUMPLING THAT SURPASSES THIS PLACE IS QUITE THE CHALLENGE.
UGH, HMM...

NOW THAT KAIBARA YUZAN IS INVOLVED, YOU CAN'T BACK DOWN!
YAMAOKA-SAN!

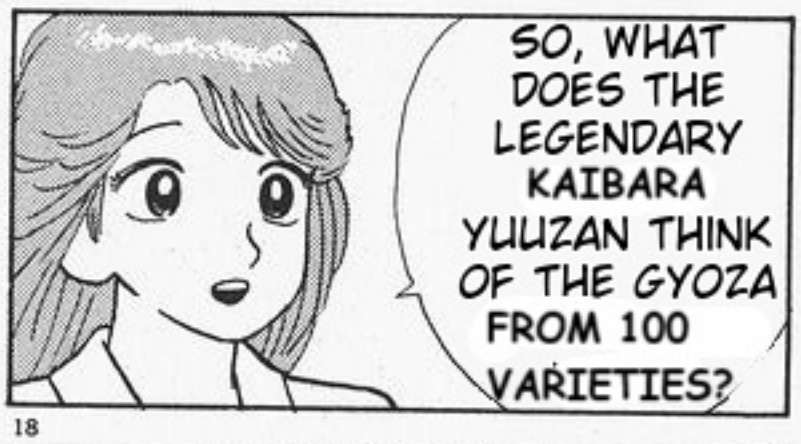

FINE.

DAMN IT... ALWAYS PUSHING PEOPLE LIKE THIS...

ACE


I SEE:
.....
HE MENTIONED THAT IF ONE ONLY CHASES AFTER REFINED DISHES, THE VITALITY OF THE COOKING FADES AWAY...

HE BELIEVES IT'S ESSENTIAL TO DELVE INTO WHAT WE CALL THE FOOD OF THE COMMON PEOPLE.
RECENTLY, KAIBARA-SENSEI HAS BEEN DINING AT MORE COMMON PLACES.
RAIN DROP
RAIN DROP

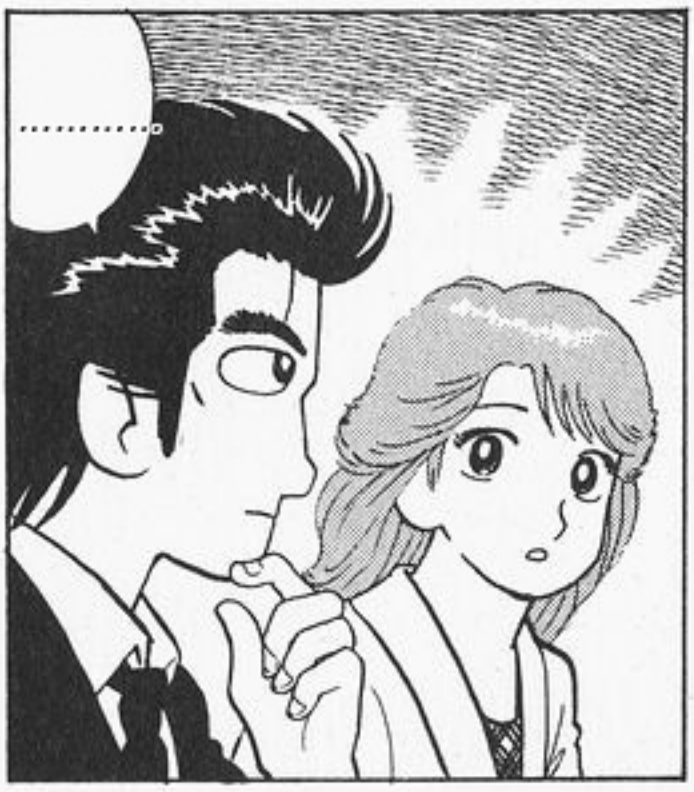

SO, WHAT DOES THE LEGENDARY KAIBARA YUUZAN THINK OF THE GYOZA FROM 100 VARIETIES?

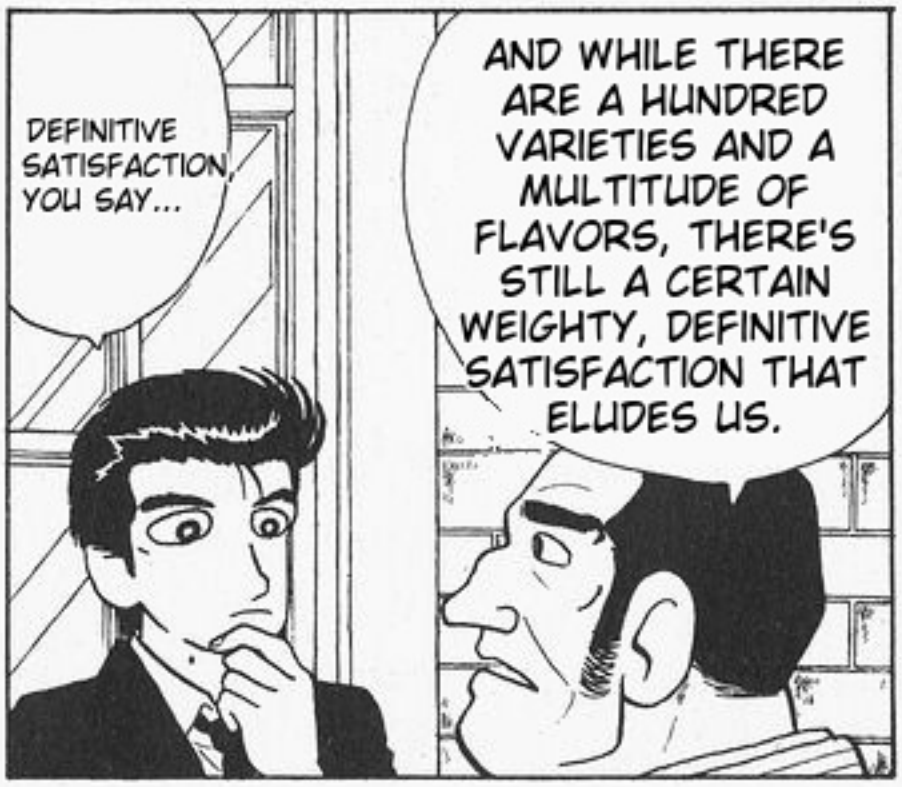
18

HE SEEMED TO FIND IT ALL QUITE AMUSING.

WHEN HE ELEVATED IT INTO A FORM CLOSE TO ART, IT INFUSED KAISEKI WITH A WHOLE NEW VIBRANCY.
IN KAISEKI, HE PREPARED OCTOPUS SO TENDER IT PRACTICALLY MELTED IN THE MOUTH, YET THAT WAS ORIGINALLY SEEN AS A HUMBLE FARE, FAR FROM ELEGANT.

DELICIOUSNESS CHRONICLES 17



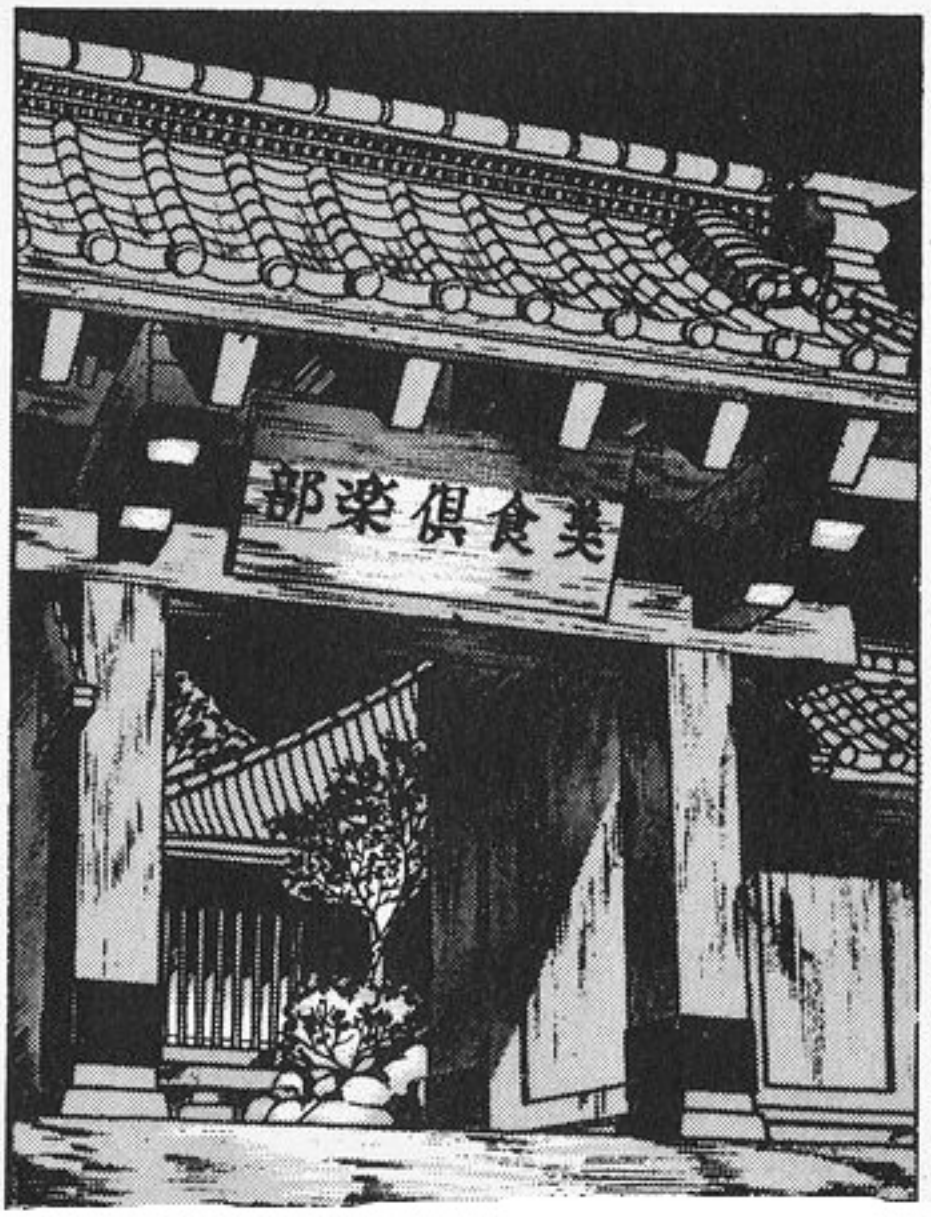


THE ULTIMATE GYOZA IS CRAFTED BY WALKING THE TRUE PATH OF GYOZA... OR THE ROYAL ROAD OF GYOZA, THAT'S HOW IT'S DONE!

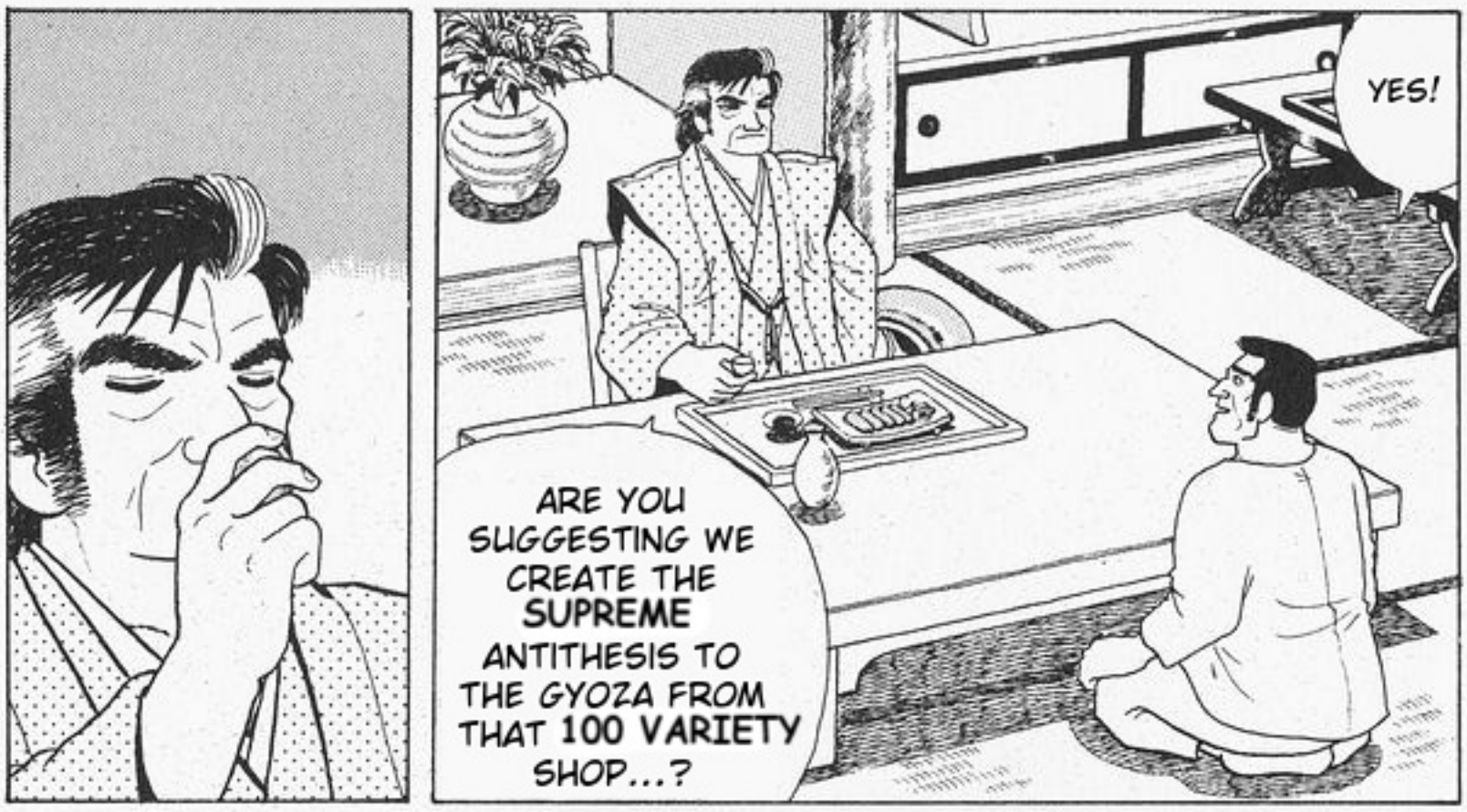
MY HEART IS SET NOW.

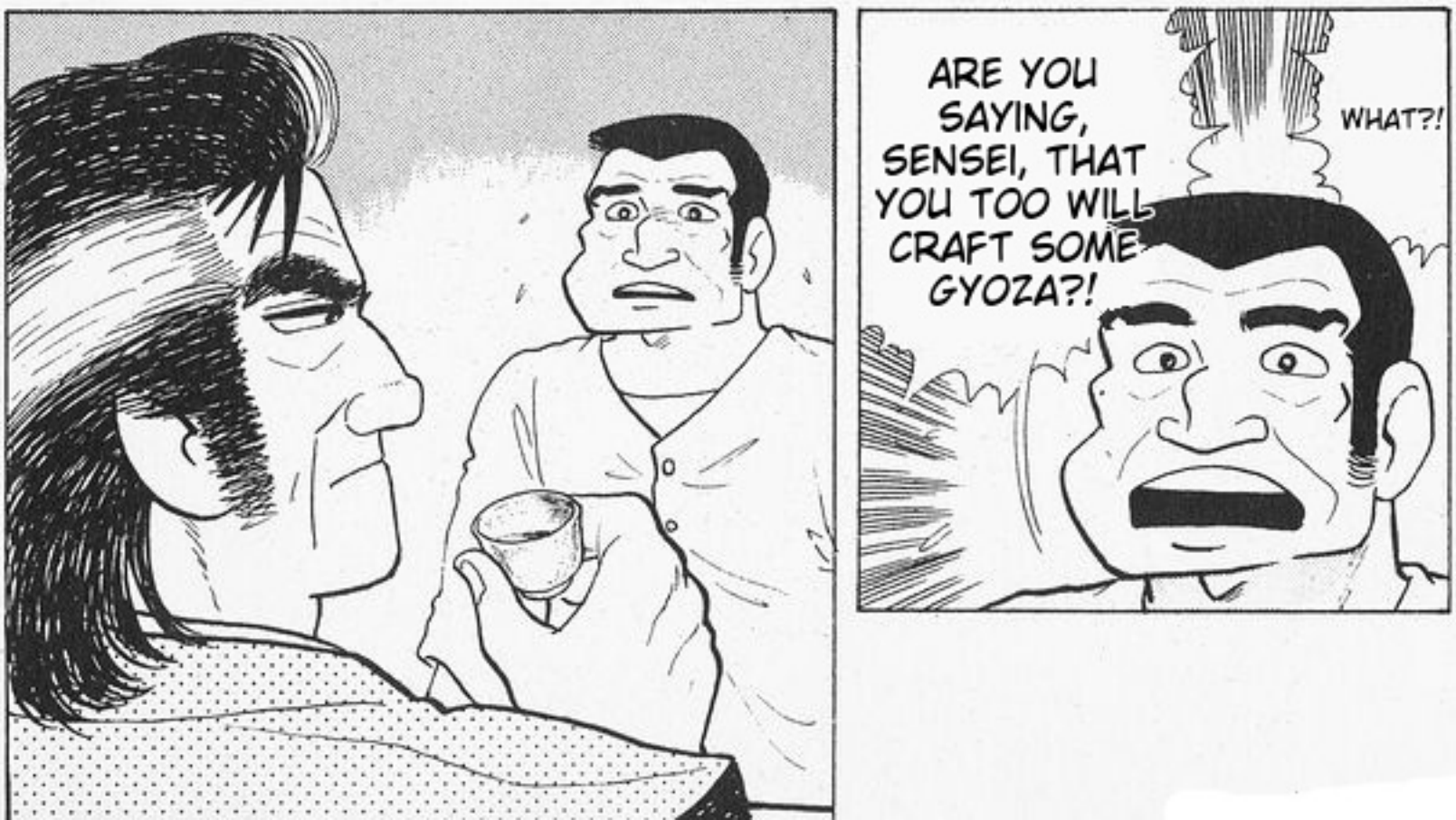
THE PATH OF GYOZA!?

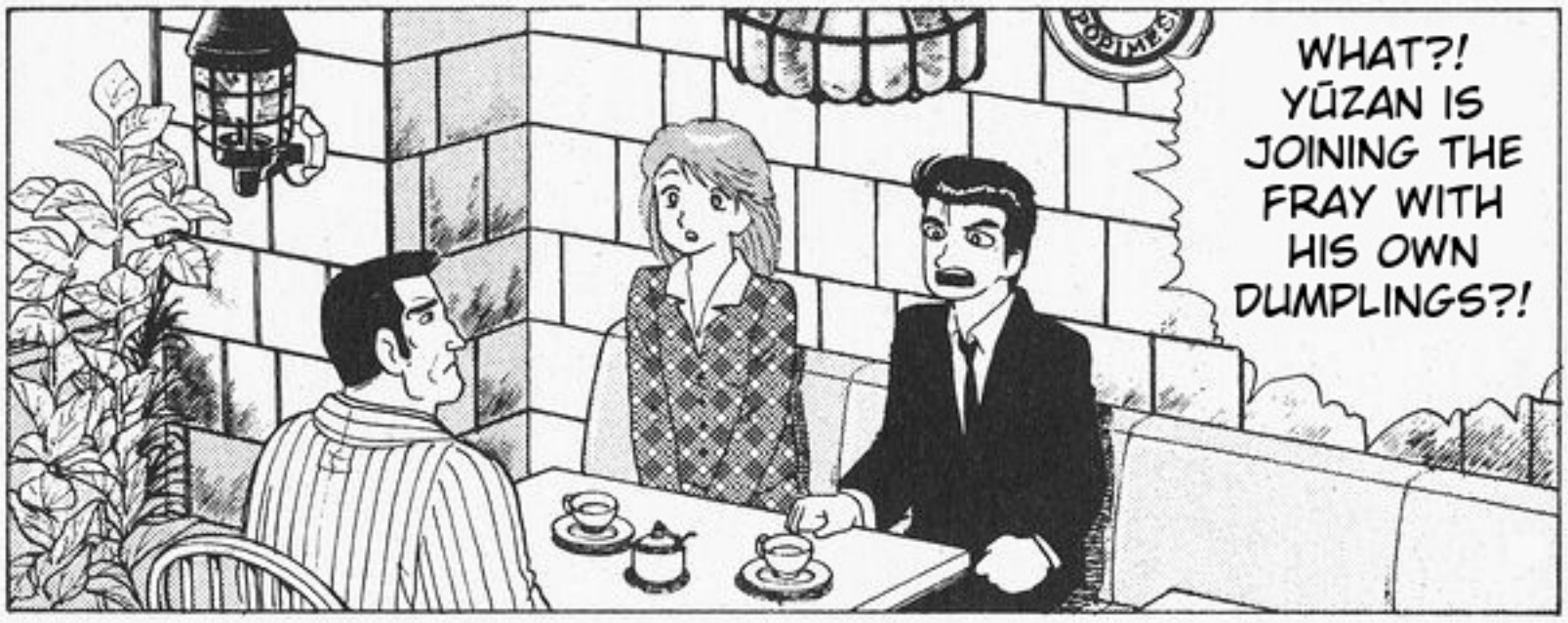
WHAT? SO YOU'RE SAYING THE ULTIMATE GYOZA COMES FROM FOLLOWING THE TRUE PATH?!



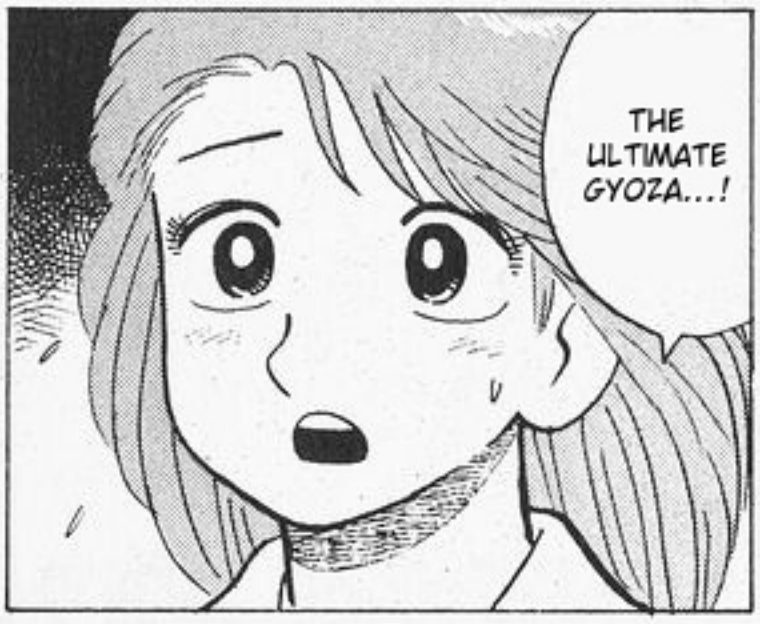
DELICIOUSNESS CHRONICLES 17



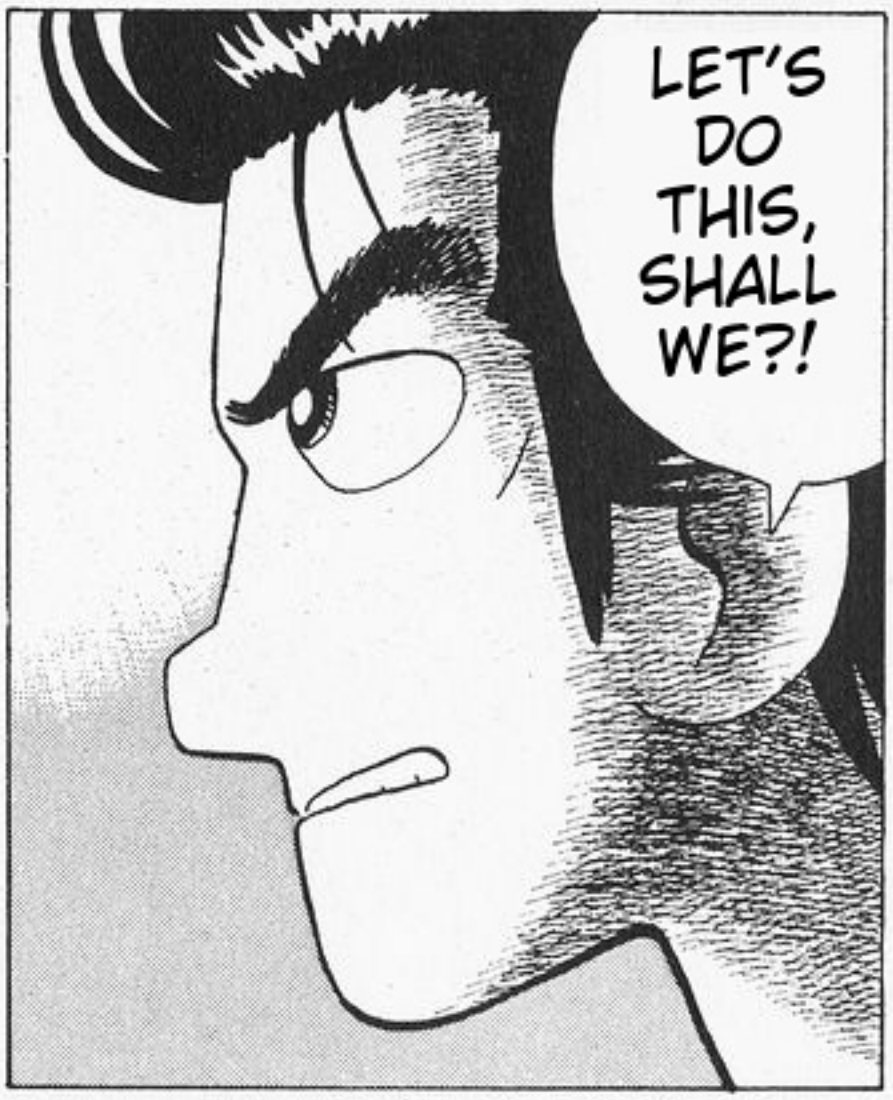


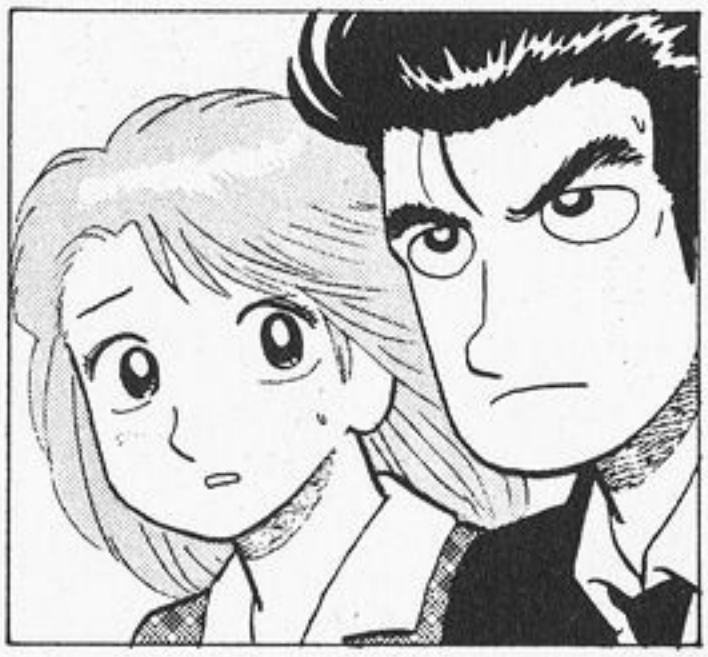

WHAT?! YŪZAN IS JOINING THE FRAY WITH HIS OWN DUMPLINGS?!

IT'S TURNED INTO A SHOWDOWN BETWEEN ME AND YŪZAN...
THE CLASH OF 'GYOZA OHARU' AND 'GYOZA IPPON YARI' IS UPON US-


THE ULTIMATE GYOZA...!

22


LET'S DO THIS, SHALL WE?!



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第1話
餃子の春
〈後編〉

WANTING TO COVER A DUMPLING DUEL, NO LESS?!

東西新聞社

WEEKLY TIME HAVE APPROACHED US WANTING TO FEATURE A SPECIAL ARTICLE ON THE SHOWDOWN BETWEEN THE 'ULTIMATE MENU' AND THE 'SUPREME MENU'—

I SINCERELY APOLOGIZE. I WAS COMPLETELY IN THE DARK AS WELL...

I HAD NO IDEA THIS WAS EVEN HAPPENING ON MY END!!

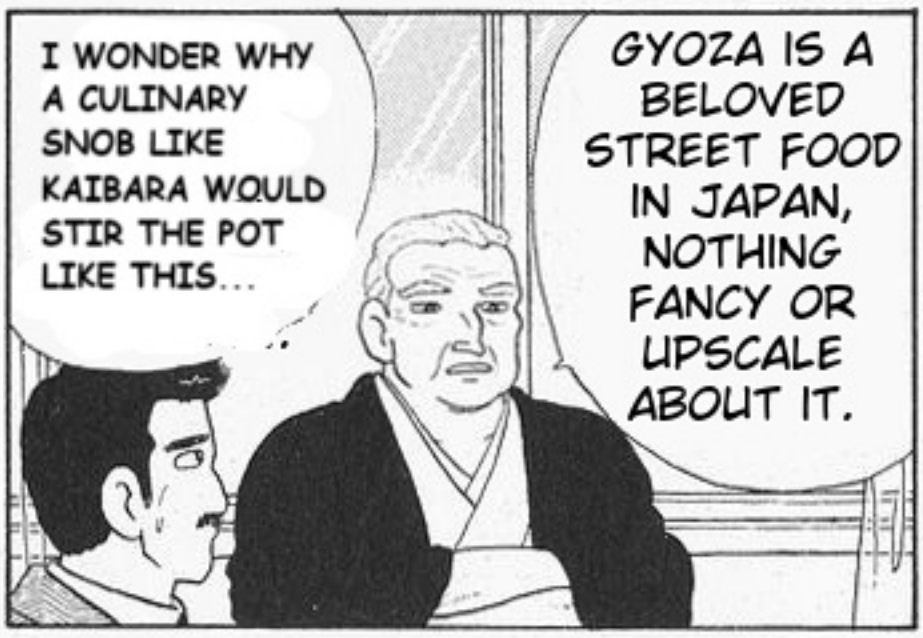
2

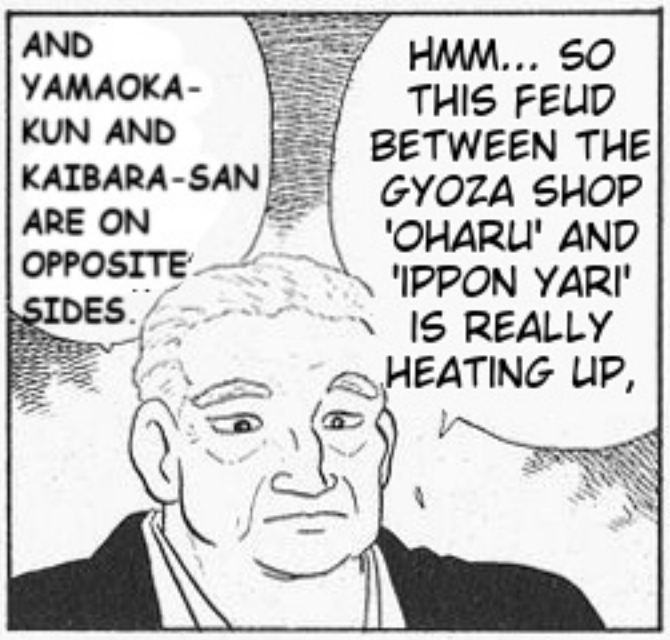
HOW CAN YOU NOT UNDERSTAND SOMETHING SO CRUCIAL?!

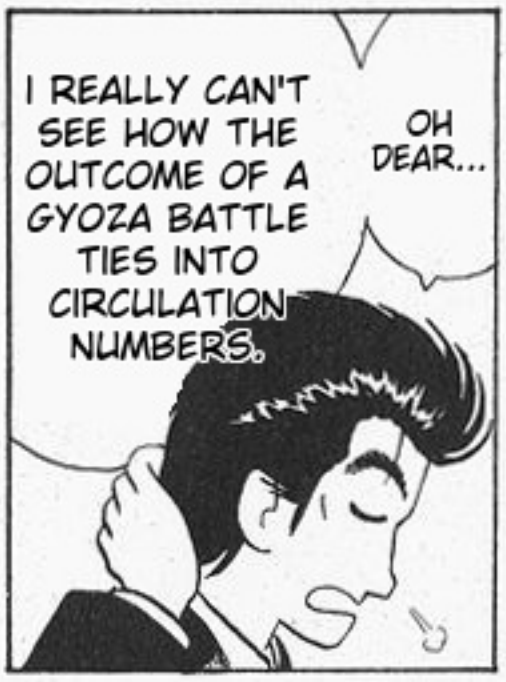
YOU FOOL! THE SHOWDOWN WITH YŪZAN KAIBARA IS NOW A BATTLE FOR PRIDE BETWEEN OUR TOZAI NEWSPAPER AND THE TEITO NEWSPAPER?!

DO WE REALLY NEED TO BLOW THIS OUT OF PROPORTION?

DELICIOUS!


I WONDER WHY A CULINARY SNOB LIKE KAIBARA WOULD STIR THE POT LIKE THIS...
GYOZA IS A BELOVED STREET FOOD IN JAPAN, NOTHING FANCY OR UPSCALE ABOUT IT.


AND YAMAOKA-KUN AND KAIBARA-SAN ARE ON OPPOSITE SIDES...
HMM... SO THIS FEUD BETWEEN THE GYOZA SHOP 'OHARU' AND 'IPPON YARI' IS REALLY HEATING UP,


I REALLY CAN'T SEE HOW THE OUTCOME OF A GYOZA BATTLE TIES INTO CIRCULATION NUMBERS.
OH DEAR...

YAMAOKA!! JUST SO YOU KNOW, IF YOU LOSE, IT WON'T JUST BE A PINK SLIP-IT'S GAME OVER!

THERE'S NO TURNING BACK NOW; ONCE THE WEEKLY TIME CATCHES WIND OF THIS, I'M IN IT TO WIN IT!

I'LL GET YOU!!!
ガッ

AS THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, MY LACK OF CONFIDENCE IN MY OWN POLICIES MAKES ME FLY OFF THE HANDLE OVER SOMETHING AS SIMPLE AS GYOZA...

HEY? DID YOU JUST HEAR THAT LITTLE MUTTER OF MINE?
W-WHAT ON EARTH?!

HAS IT REALLY ESCALATED TO SUCH A SERIOUS LEVEL?!

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HMPH!

IT'S ALL GOOD! THE ONE WHO BLEW THIS WHOLE THING UP IS MR. YAMAOKA, AFTER ALL!

I'VE DRAGGED MR. YAMAOKA AND EVEN THE ILLUSTRIOUS CHEF KAIBARA INTO MY RIVALRY WITH PRESIDENT NIKODA.

I'M SO SORRY...

BUT... IS THE ULTIMATE GYOZA EVEN READY YET?

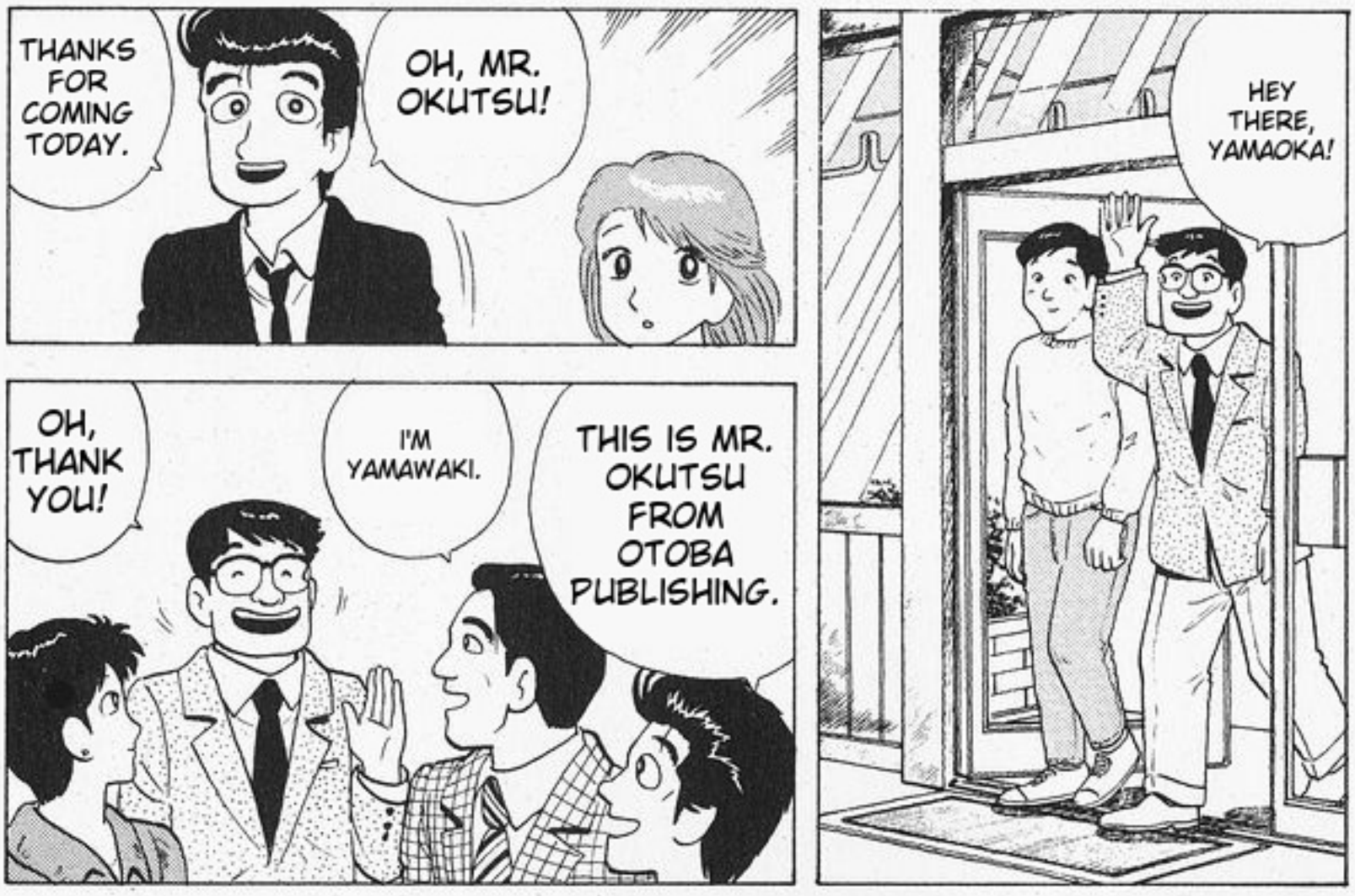
4

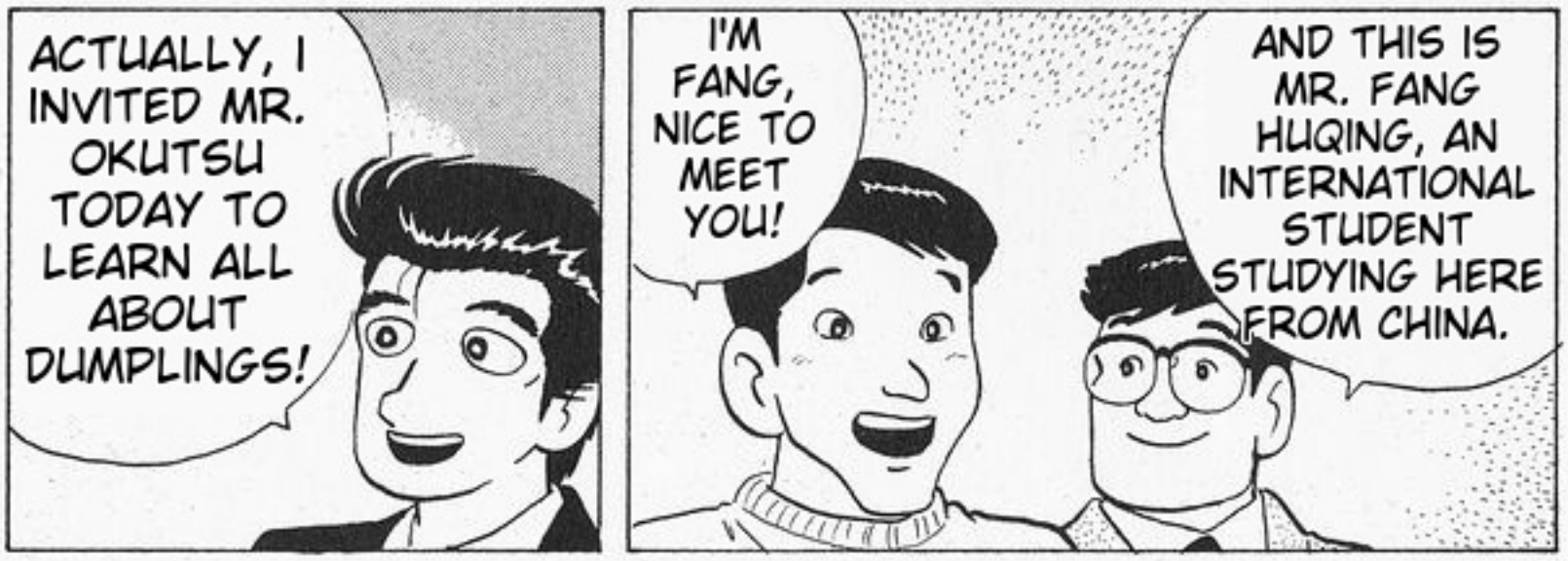
IT WILL BE...

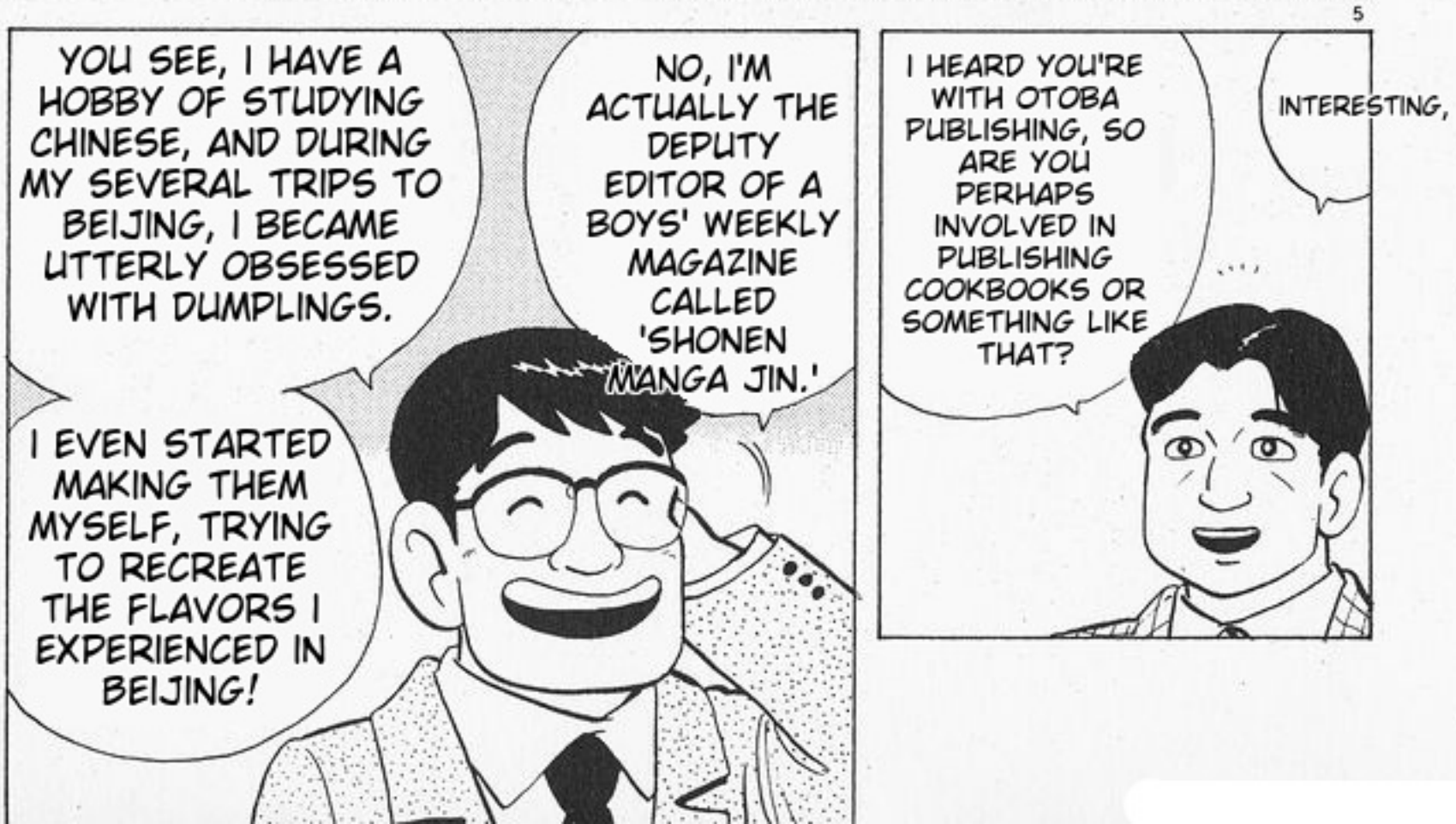
BOTH PRESIDENT NIKODA AND I HAVE A DUTY TO WITNESS WHAT THE ULTIMATE GYOZA, THE PINNACLE OF PERFECTION, TRULY IS...

PLEASE, LET US ALSO BE PART OF THIS GYOZA SHOWDOWN!

DELICIOUS!


THANKS FOR COMING TODAY.
OH, MR. OKUTSU!
OH, THANK YOU!
I'M YAMAWAKI.
THIS IS MR. OKUTSU FROM OTOBA PUBLISHING.
HEY THERE, YAMAOKA!


ACTUALLY, I INVITED MR. OKUTSU TODAY TO LEARN ALL ABOUT DUMPLINGS!
I'M FANG, NICE TO MEET YOU!
AND THIS IS MR. FANG HUQING, AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT STUDYING HERE FROM CHINA.


YOU SEE, I HAVE A HOBBY OF STUDYING CHINESE, AND DURING MY SEVERAL TRIPS TO BEIJING, I BECAME UTTERLY OBSESSED WITH DUMPLINGS.
I EVEN STARTED MAKING THEM MYSELF, TRYING TO RECREATE THE FLAVORS I EXPERIENCED IN BEIJING!
NO, I'M ACTUALLY THE DEPUTY EDITOR OF A BOYS' WEEKLY MAGAZINE CALLED 'SHONEN MANGA JIN.'
I HEARD YOU'RE WITH OTOBA PUBLISHING, SO ARE YOU PERHAPS INVOLVED IN PUBLISHING COOKBOOKS OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
INTERESTING,

BEIJING IS THE CENTER OF IT ALL, IN THE NORTHERN PART OF CHINA.

DUMPLINGS ARE ORIGINALLY FROM BEIJING, RIGHT?

BEFORE WE GET ALL HYPED ABOUT WHAT MAKES THE ULTIMATE DUMPLING,

TODAY, WE'RE IN FOR A TREAT AS OKUTSU-SAN AND FANG-SAN ARE GOING TO MAKE US AUTHENTIC BEIJING DUMPLINGS.

I ASKED HIM TO SHOW US THE AUTHENTIC, REAL DEAL DUMPLINGS FROM THE HEART OF CHINA.

DO YOU OFTEN MAKE THEM AT HOME, FANG-SAN?

I GOT TO KNOW FANG-KUN THROUGH OUR CHINESE LANGUAGE STUDIES, AND HE'S QUITE THE EXPERT IN MAKING DUMPLINGS!

YES, I USUALLY WHIP THEM UP DURING NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS OR FAMILY GATHERINGS.

ABSOLUTELY, I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT HE PREPARES!

WELL, I GUESS YOU'LL UNDERSTAND ONCE YOU TASTE WHAT HE MAKES!

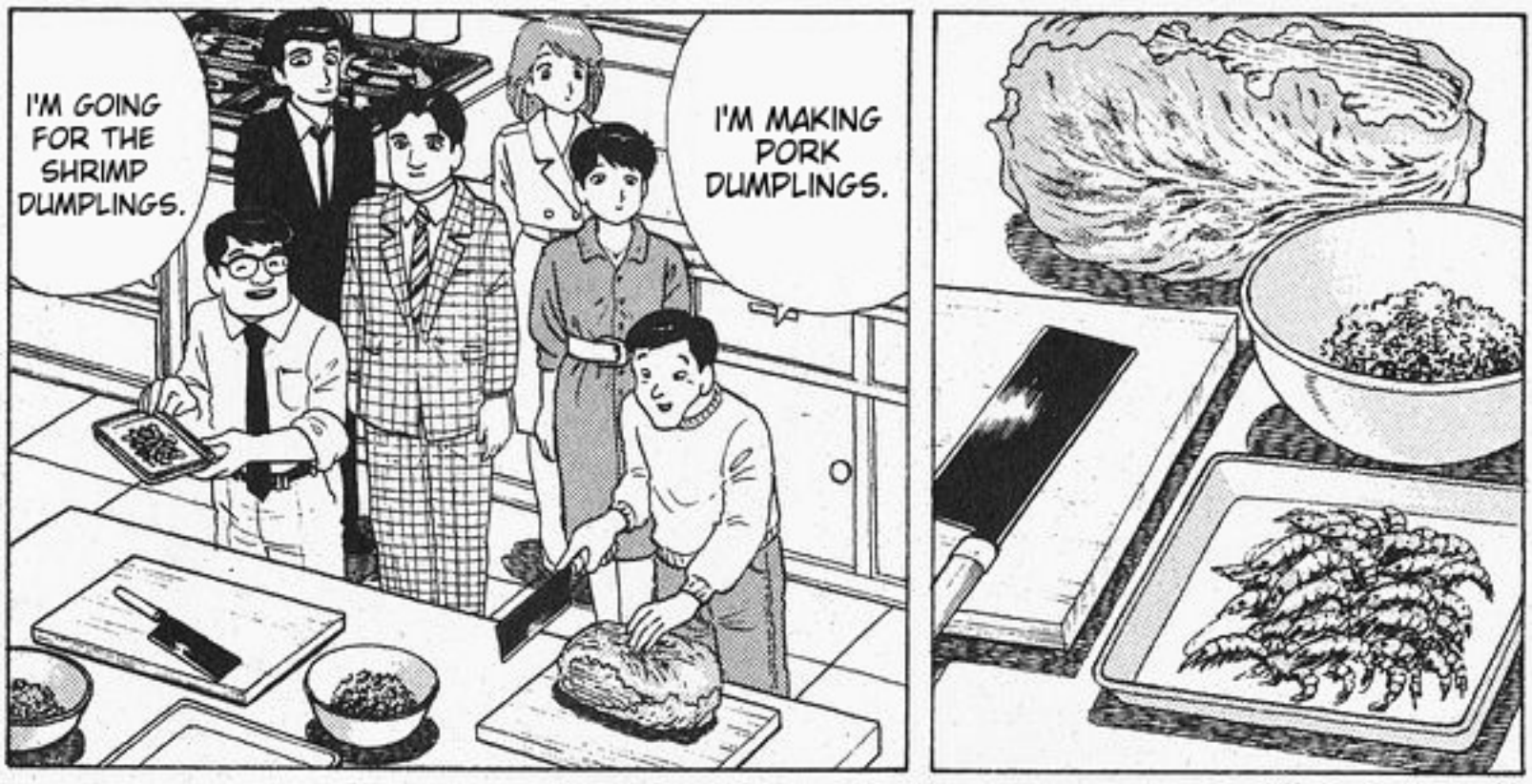
6

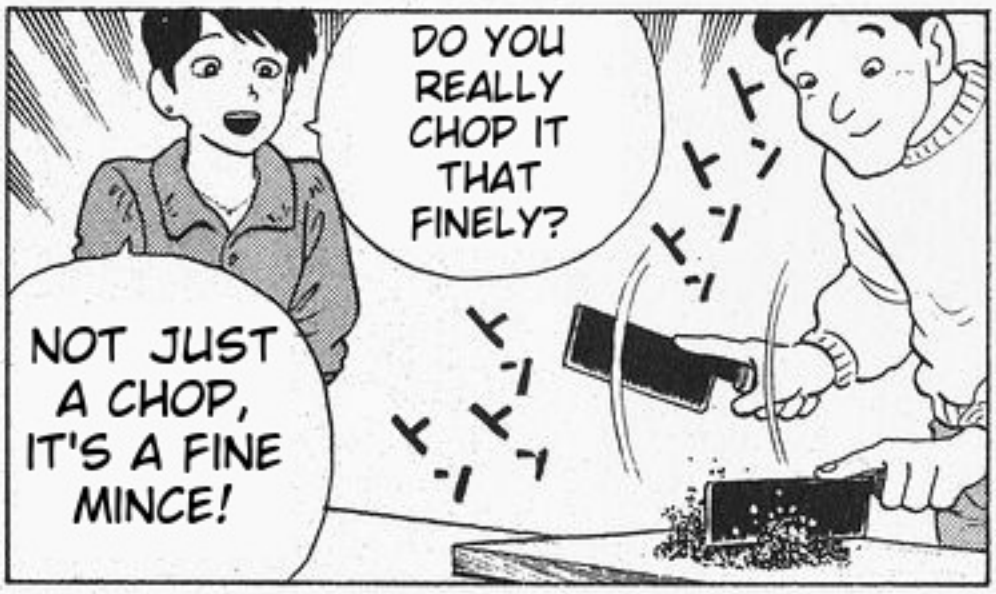
ALRIGHT THEN, LET'S GET STARTED!

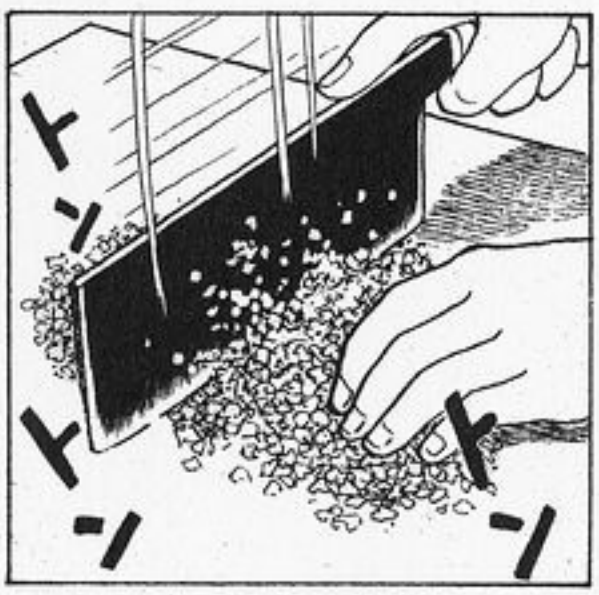
ARE THE DUMPLINGS FROM BEIJING REALLY DIFFERENT FROM WHAT WE EAT AT JAPANESE DUMPLING SHOPS?

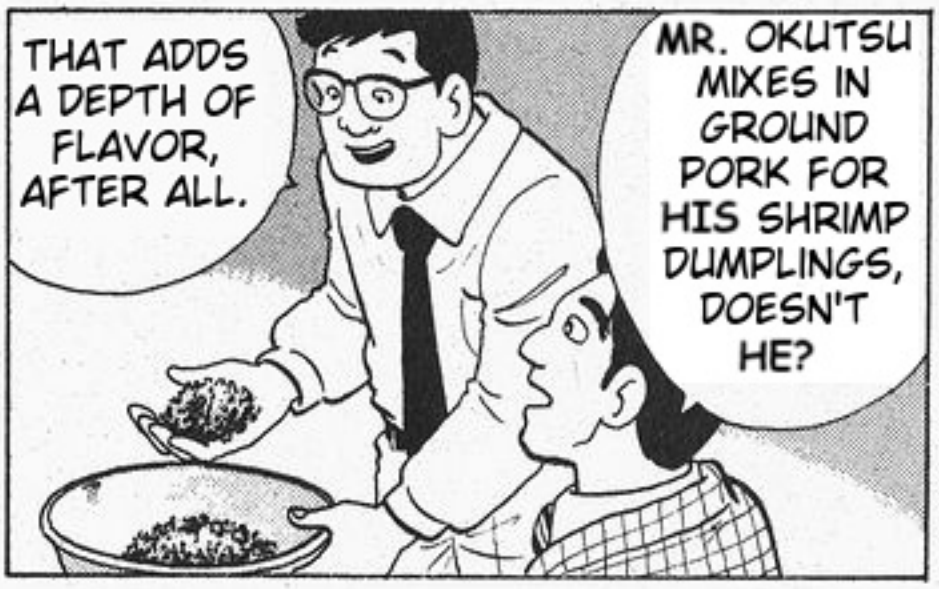
YEAH, THEY'RE QUITE DIFFERENT, I'D SAY...

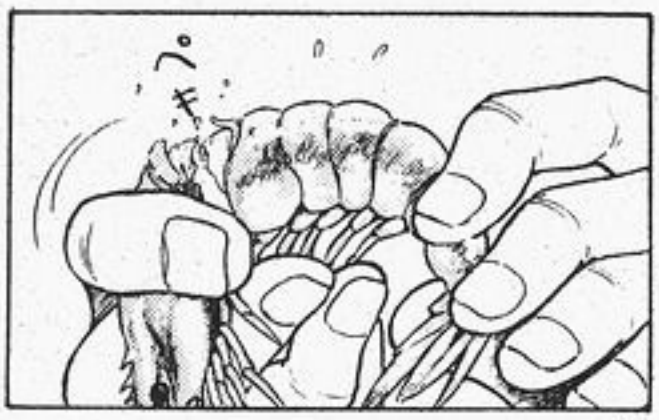
DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED 17.

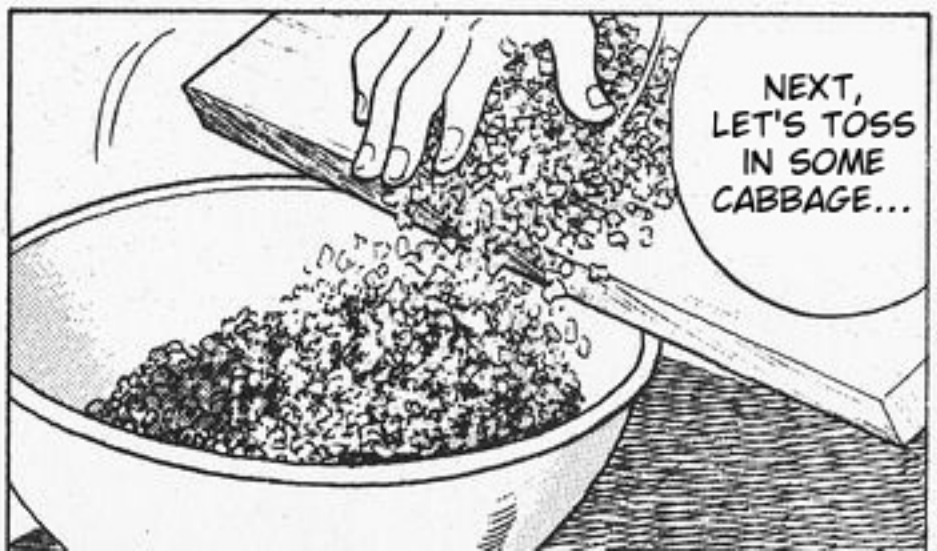


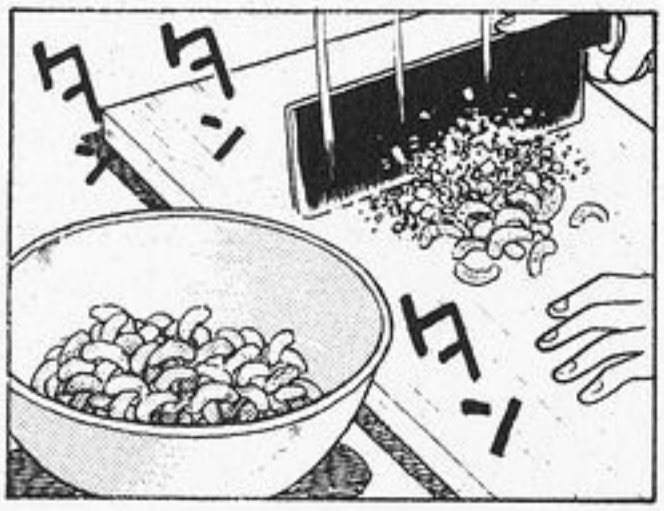












REALLY? NO WAY?!

IN CHINA, GARLIC ISN'T PART OF THE DUMPLING RECIPE.

OH, SO YOU'RE NOT ADDING ANY GARLIC, HUH?

EVEN YOU DON'T PUT GARLIC IN, HUH?

SOMEONE ADDED GARLIC BACK THEN, AND BEFORE WE KNEW IT, IT BECAME THE NORM...

IT ALL STARTED WHEN PEOPLE WHO LIVED IN CHINA BEFORE THE WAR BEGAN MAKING DUMPLINGS IN JAPAN.

FOR THOSE WHO ABSOLUTELY CRAVE GARLIC, THEY MUNCH ON SLICES WHILE CHOWING DOWN ON THEIR DUMPLINGS.

DUMPLINGS BECAME POPULAR IN JAPAN AFTER WORLD WAR II...

I REALLY STRUGGLE WITH THIS; MINE ALWAYS ENDS UP LOOKING SO WEIRD!

WELL THEN, LET ME SHOW YOU A SIMPLE WAY TO FOLD THEM SO THEY TURN OUT PERFECTLY!

NOW, LET'S MAKE THE WRAPPERS AND FOLD THEM UP.

AFTER LETTING THE WELL-KNEADED DOUGH REST FOR ABOUT AN HOUR,

DELICIOUS!

AND THEN, WHEN YOU STICK THE FOUR FOLDS TOGETHER, VOILÀ, IT'S DONE!

NEXT, BRING THE OUTER SIDES TOGETHER TO STICK RIGHT AT THE CENTER.

PLACE THE FILLING RIGHT IN THE CENTER OF THE DOUGH,

MAKE SURE IT ALIGNS PERFECTLY IN THE MIDDLE.

WELL, THAT'S EASY-PEASY!

OH MY, FANG-SAN IS SKILLFULLY FOLDING FROM THE EDGE!

9

WATER DUMPLINGS, HERE WE COME!

WAIT, WE'RE NOT FRYING THEM? WE'RE BOILING INSTEAD?

THE DUMPLINGS WILL BE READY TO BOIL IN NO TIME!

ALRIGHT, EVERYONE TAKE YOUR SEATS.

LET'S DIG IN!

ME TOO!

I ENJOY IT WITH SOY SAUCE, RICE VINEGAR, AND A KICK OF DOUBANJIANG.

AND LET'S SPICE THINGS UP WITH SOME KOREAN CHILI POWDER.

I PAIR IT WITH ZHEJIANG'S RED VINEGAR AND SOY SAUCE,

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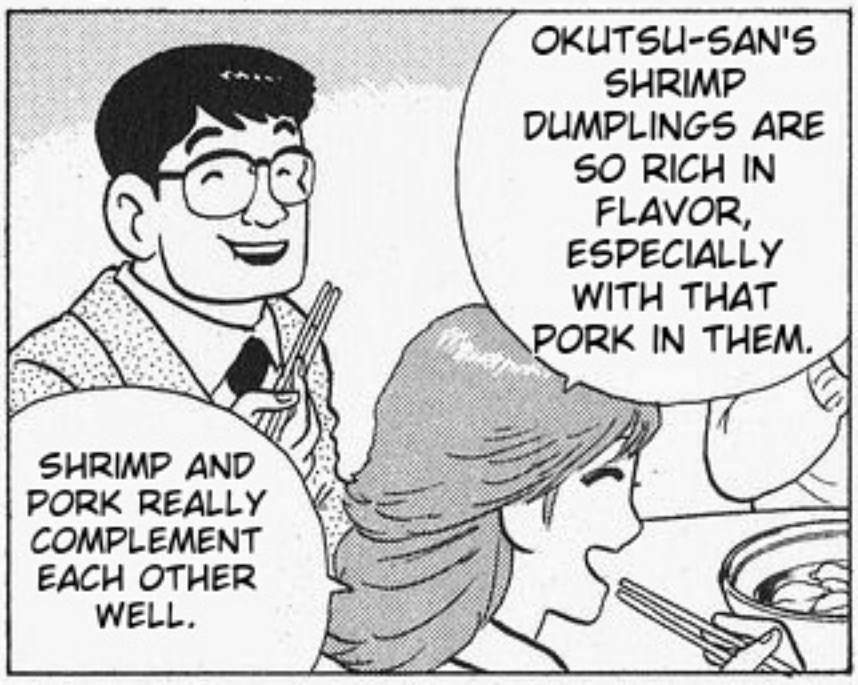
MIXING IN SOME WASABI MAKES IT EVEN MORE DELIGHTFUL!

10

IT SLITHERS IN SO SMOOTHLY, THEN BAM, IT'S IN!

THIS LEATHER-LIKE TEXTURE IS ABSOLUTELY IRRESISTIBLE!

GOURMET DELIGHTS!!!



11

WHEN YOU DIP IT IN THIS, IT'S DELICIOUS.

YOU MIX BLACK VINEGAR WITH A GENEROUS HELPING OF SUGAR.

OH, IS THIS IT?

WHAT'S THAT, FANG?

I'VE LEARNED SOMETHING TODAY!

I SEE, THE LOCALS REALLY DO IT DIFFERENTLY...

WE COULD NEVER IMAGINE DOING THAT.

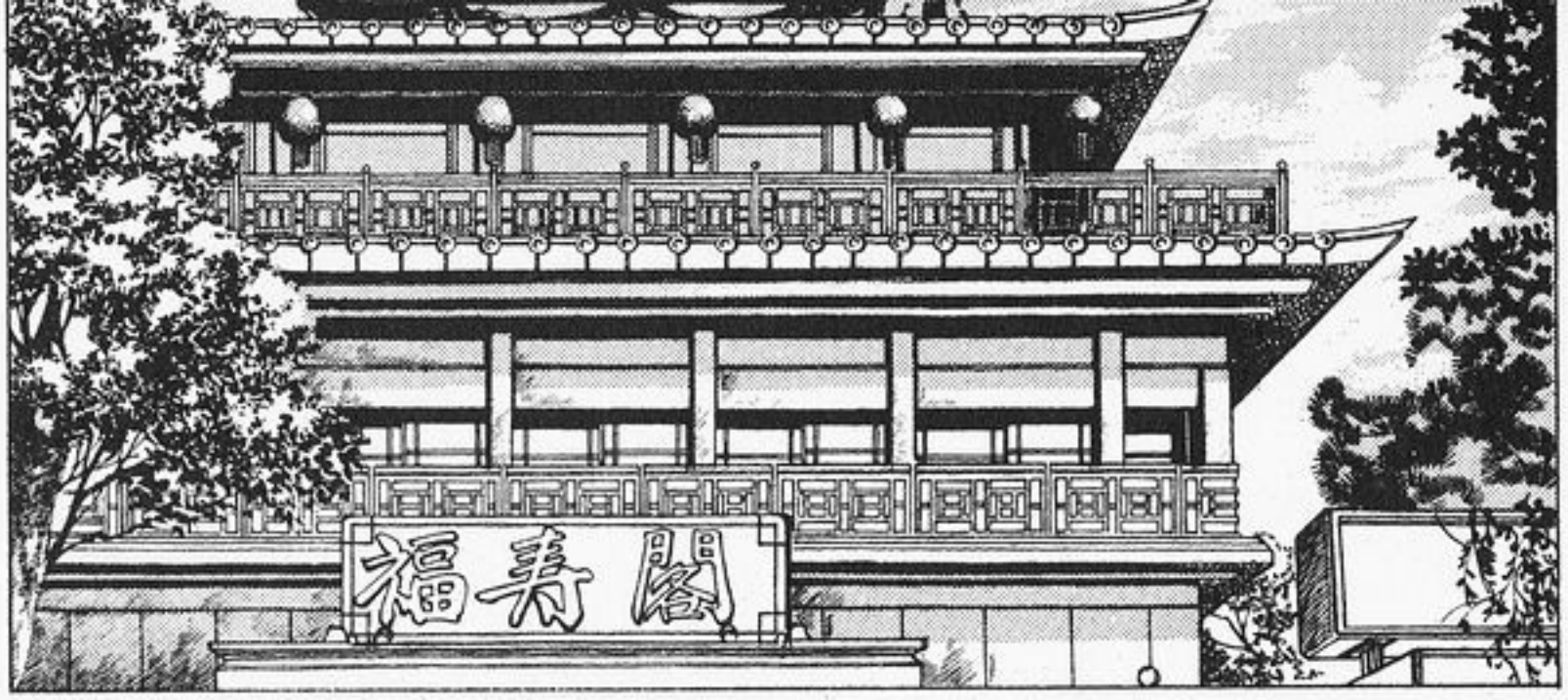
HMM... BLACK VINEGAR AND SUGAR FOR DUMPLINGS!

12

FANG, DO ALL THE FOLKS IN BEIJING EAT LIKE THAT?

EVERYONE SAYS IT'S GROSS.

NO, IT'S JUST ME.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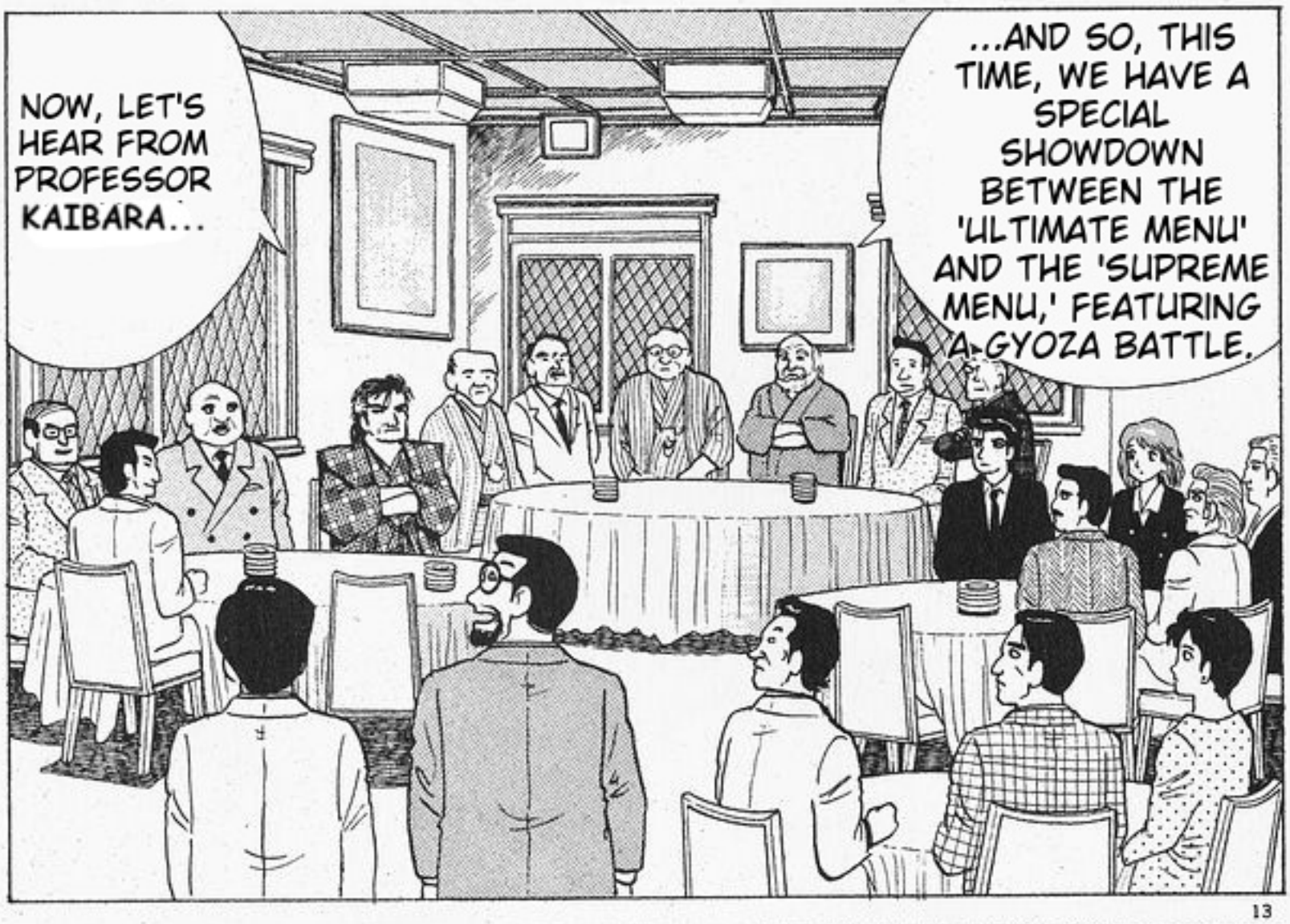
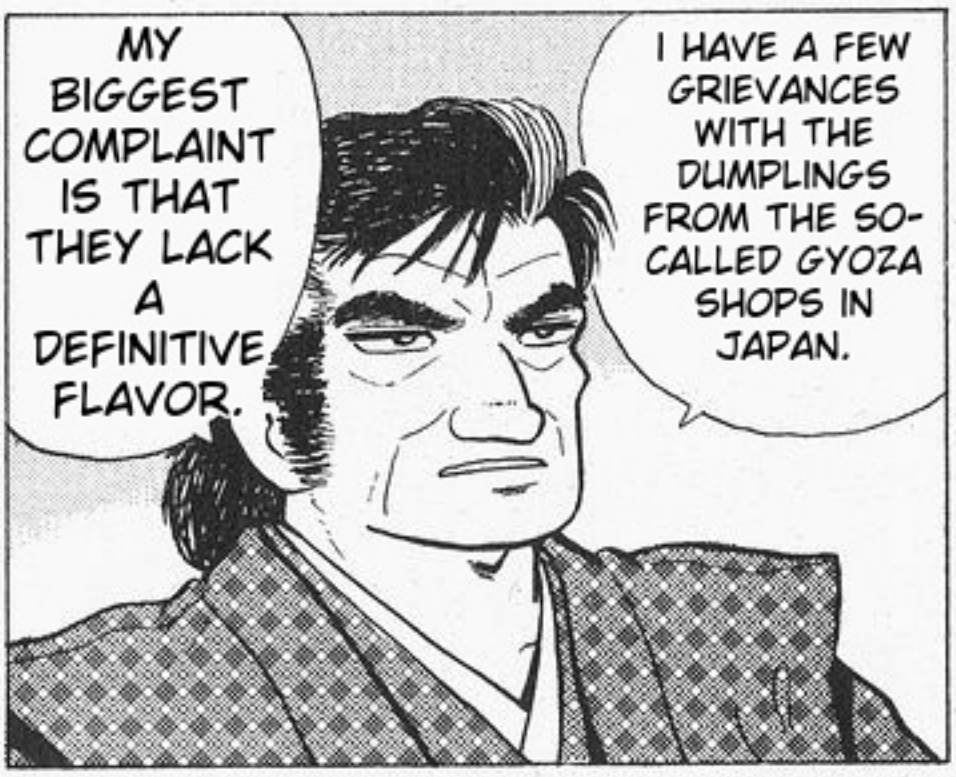
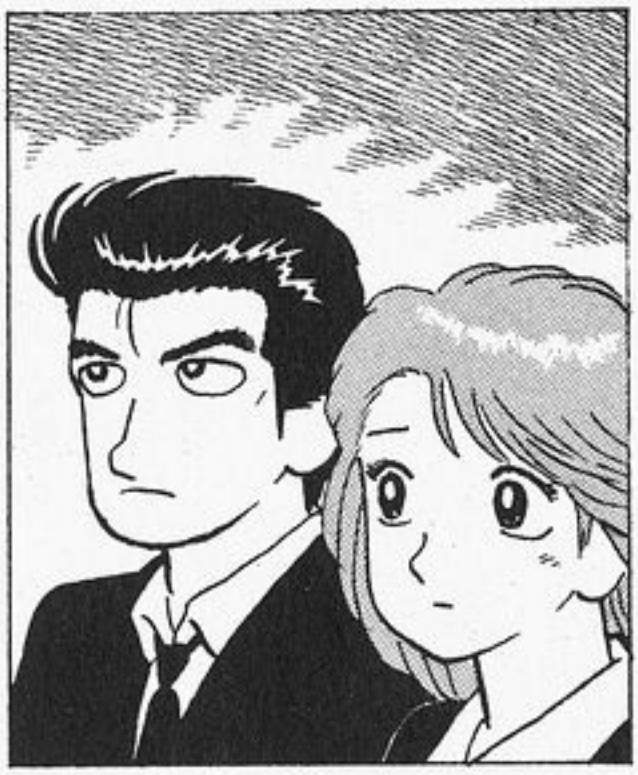

NOW, LET'S HEAR FROM PROFESSOR KAIBARA...
...AND SO, THIS TIME, WE HAVE A SPECIAL SHOWDOWN BETWEEN THE 'ULTIMATE MENU' AND THE 'SUPREME MENU,' FEATURING A GYOZA BATTLE.

13


MY BIGGEST COMPLAINT IS THAT THEY LACK A DEFINITIVE FLAVOR.
I HAVE A FEW GRIEVANCES WITH THE DUMPLINGS FROM THE SO-CALLED GYOZA SHOPS IN JAPAN.



IS IT THE FILLING?

ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT THE TASTE OF THE MEAT OR THE VEGETABLES?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY A DECISIVE FLAVOR?

THAT'S NOT IT.

THINK OF A BOWL OF CHAR SIU RAMEN: NO MATTER HOW DELECTABLE THE PORK IS, IF THE NOODLES ARE SUBPAR, THE DISH FALLS FLAT.

THE GYOZA WRAPPER IS NOT MERELY A VESSEL FOR HOLDING THE FILLING. IN THE WORLD OF NOODLES, IT'S AKIN TO THE NOODLES THEMSELVES.

IT'S THE WRAPPER THAT ENVELOPS EVERYTHING.

IT'S NOT ABOUT THE FILLING.

NO WAY!

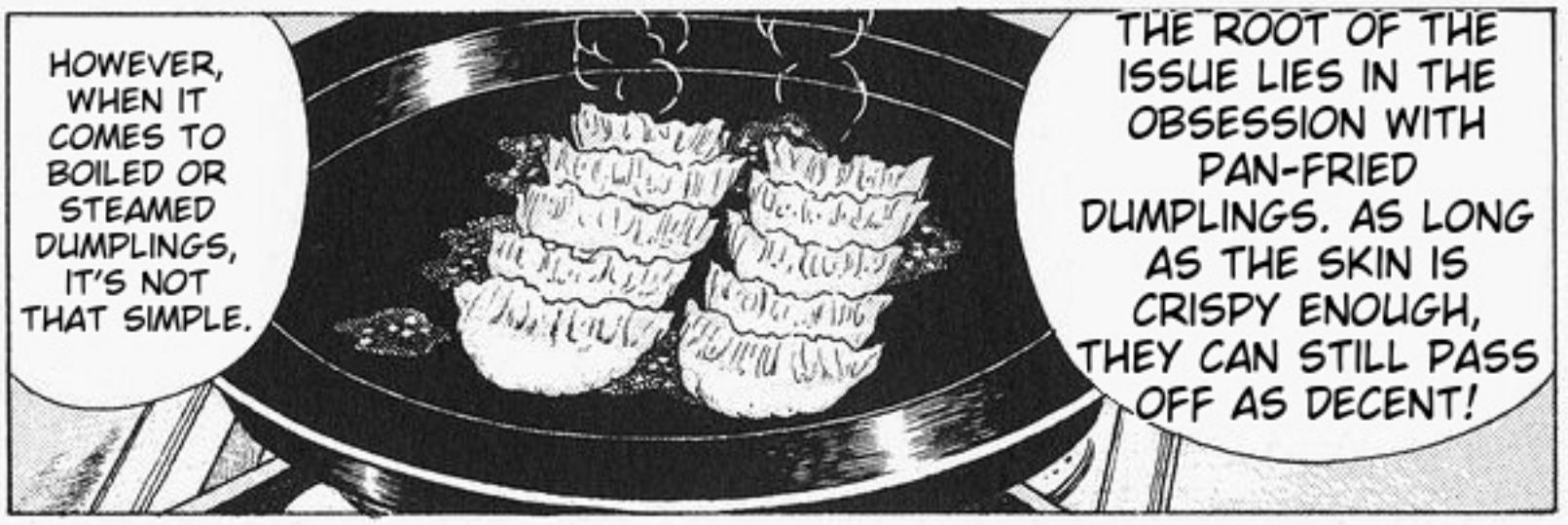
THE WRAPPER!

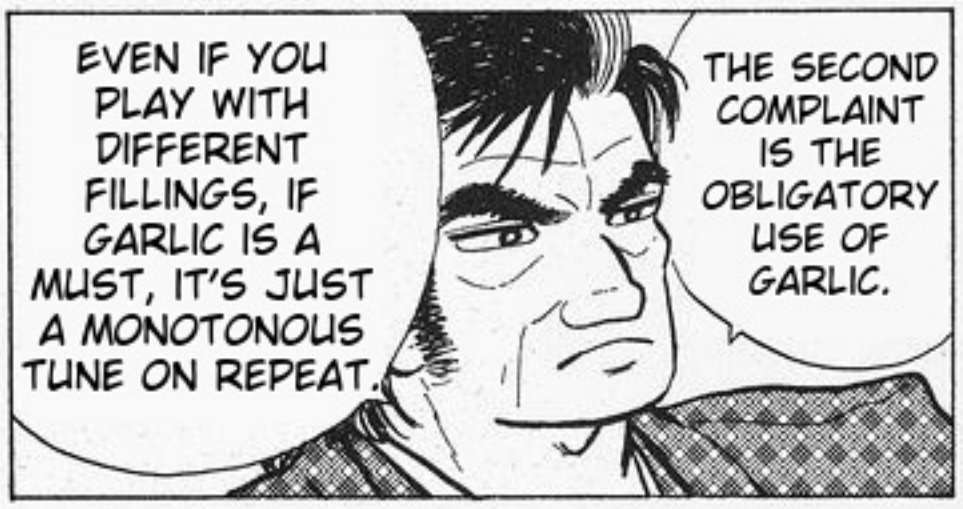
UGH...

THE TRUE ESSENCE LIES IN THE FLAVOR OF THE WRAPPER, YET YOU RARELY FIND A GYOZA SHOP THAT MASTERS THIS ART.

THE SAME GOES FOR GYOZA WRAPPERS.

DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED 17.





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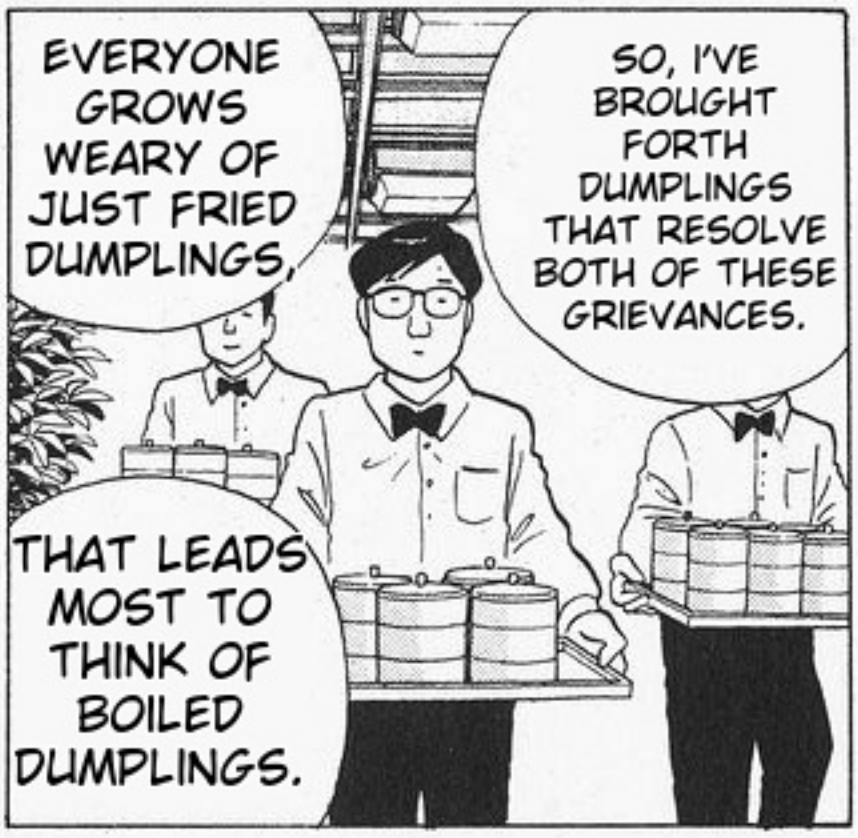
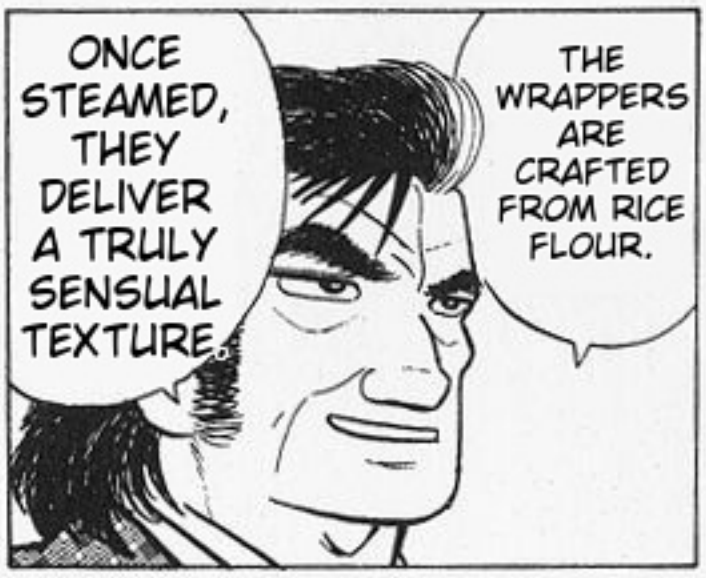
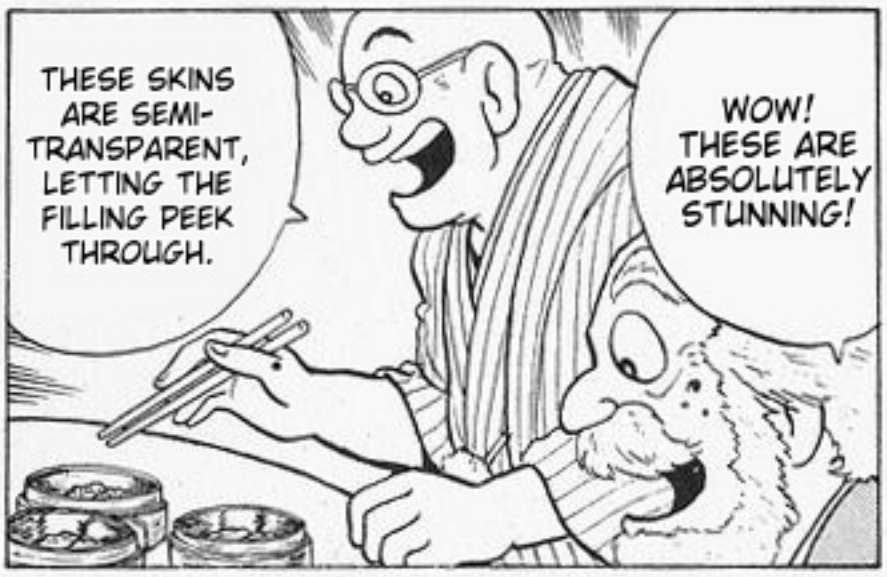
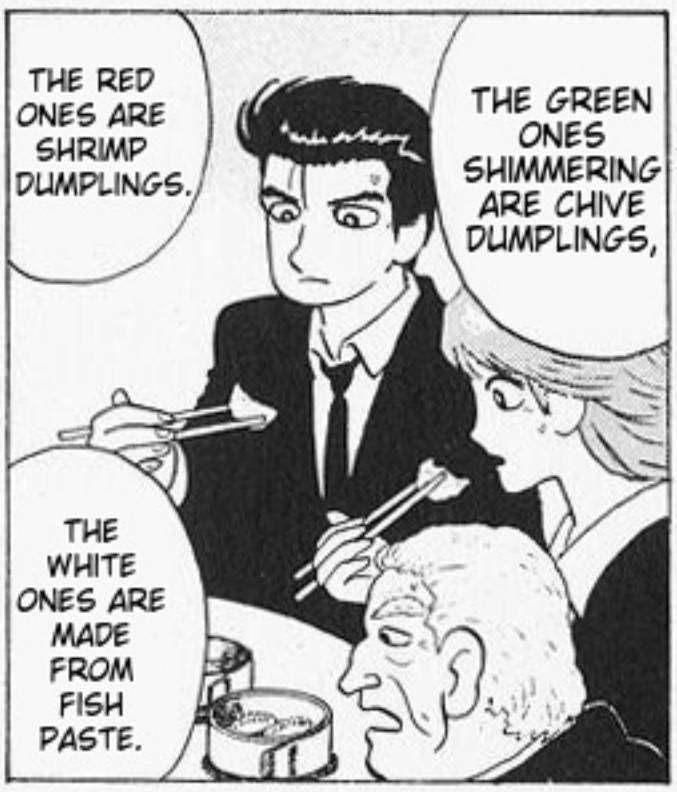



ONCE STEAMED, THEY DELIVER A TRULY SENSUAL TEXTURE.
THE WRAPPERS ARE CRAFTED FROM RICE FLOUR.


THESE SKINS ARE SEMI-TRANSPARENT, LETTING THE FILLING PEEK THROUGH.
WOW! THESE ARE ABSOLUTELY STUNNING!

THEY'RE PLUMP AND CLING DELIGHTFULLY TO YOUR TONGUE AND LIPS!
MMM!


THE RED ONES ARE SHRIMP DUMPLINGS.
THE GREEN ONES SHIMMERING ARE CHIVE DUMPLINGS,
THE WHITE ONES ARE MADE FROM FISH PASTE.

16

I CAN HARDLY RESIST THESE DELIGHTS!

DELICIOUS!

WHEN YOU WRAP THE GELATINOUS BROTH WITH THE FILLING AND STEAM IT, THE BROTH MELTS AND ENVELOPS EVERYTHING.
IT'S MADE THE SAME WAY AS XIAO LONG BAO.

WHEN YOU BITE INTO IT, THE SOUP BURSTS FORTH LIKE A FOUNTAIN...
OH NO!

I'LL HAND IT OVER TO YOU, YAMAOKA-SAN.
NOW THEN, LET'S MOVE ON.

IT'S NOTHING COMPARED TO THE DUMPLINGS FROM THE LOCAL SHOP!
HOW UTTERLY SOPHISTICATED THE FLAVOR IS...

HEHE, INDEED, IT MUST BE THE WATER DUMPLINGS.

THIS IS THE RESULT OF THAT PURSUIT, A DAZZLING DUMPLING!

THE CRUST IS MADE OF FLOUR, WHILE THE FILLING BURSTS WITH MEAT AND VEGETABLES—IT'S A COMPLETE MEAL PACKED WITH ALMOST ALL THE NUTRIENTS YOU NEED!

IN MY OPINION, DUMPLINGS COULD TRULY BECOME A COMPLETE MEAL...

WH-WHAT A DELIGHTFUL SURPRISE THIS IS!

I'VE SEASONED IT WITH A SPLASH OF SAKE!

WITH SHIITAKE MUSHROOMS, GINGER, AND A SECRET TOUCH OF HACCHO MISO BLENDED IN,

THE FILLING IS... MEAT, CHINESE CABBAGE, AND LEEKS, AND...

UNLIKE THE DELICATE RICE FLOUR WRAPPERS, THESE HAVE A CHARMING RUSTICITY, WITH A SATISFYING HEFT THAT TRULY STANDS OUT!

LET'S HEAR WHAT THE JUDGES HAVE TO SAY!

HA! THE WAY OF KINGS OR THE PATH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, SUCH TRIVIALITIES! THOSE PRETENTIOUS IDEALS MEAN NOTHING TO ME!!

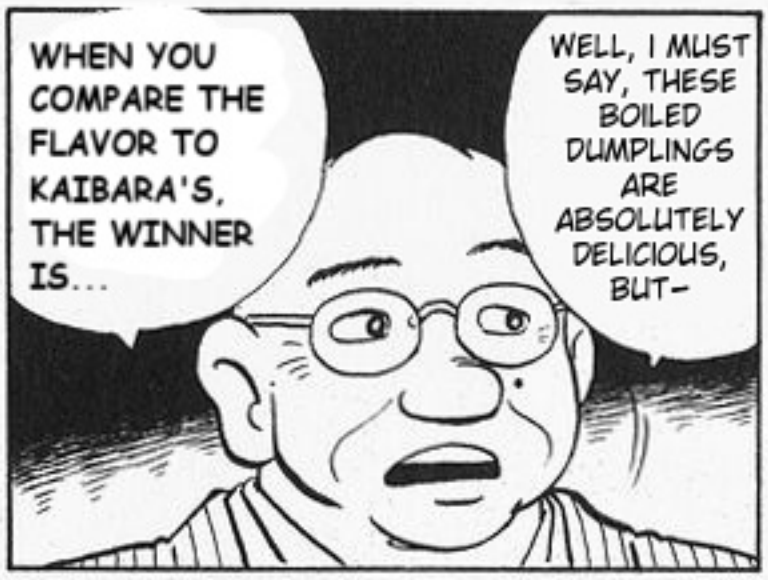
18

AFTER SAVORING THE GYOZA MADE BY FANG, THE EXCHANGE STUDENT FROM BEIJING,

WRAPPING THEM IN RICE FLOUR SKIN AND STEAMING IS DELIGHTFUL, BUT GYOZA IS UNDENIABLY A CELEBRATION OF WHEAT FLOUR CULTURE.

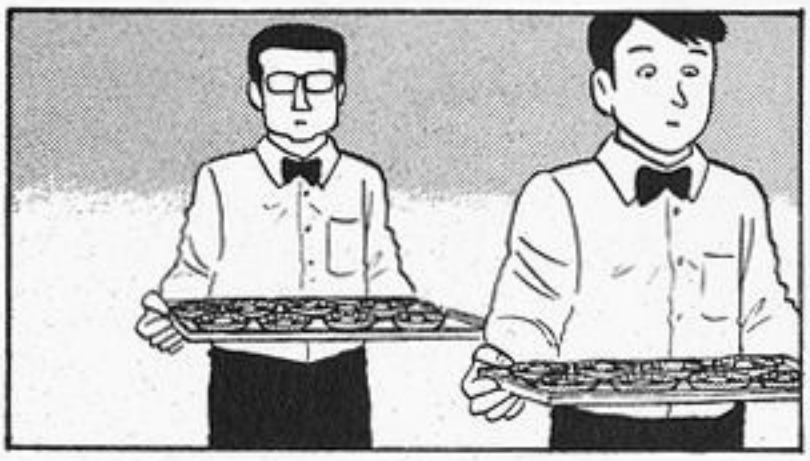
I'VE COME TO REALIZE THIS IS THE TRUE PATH OF GYOZA, THE ULTIMATE WAY!

DELICIOUS!


WHEN YOU COMPARE THE FLAVOR TO KAIBARA'S, THE WINNER IS...
WELL, I MUST SAY, THESE BOILED DUMPLINGS ARE ABSOLUTELY DELICIOUS, BUT-

.....

I STILL HAVE ONE PLATE LEFT ON MY SIDE.
HOLD ON A SECOND!



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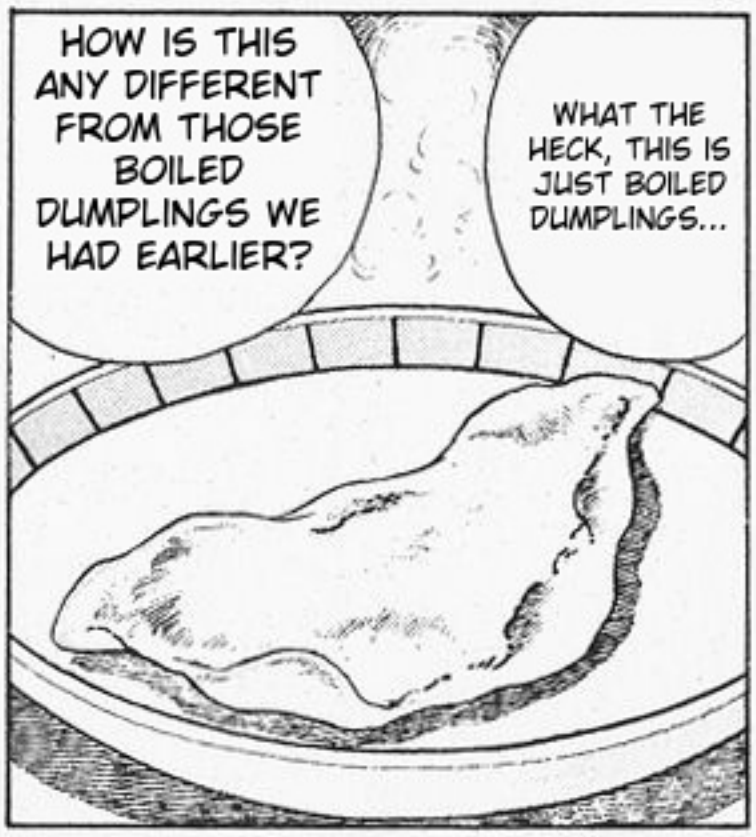

HOW IS THIS ANY DIFFERENT FROM THOSE BOILED DUMPLINGS WE HAD EARLIER?
WHAT THE HECK, THIS IS JUST BOILED DUMPLINGS...

OH MY...
WHA- WAIT, THIS IS!?

OH SO SWEET!

NO MATTER HOW LIGHT THEY MAY SEEM, THE PALATE FEELS WEIGHED DOWN AFTER THE DUMPLINGS. BUT THEN, IT ALL JUST CLEARED AWAY IN AN INSTANT!

THIS SHOULD BE JUDGED BY PAIRING THE EARLIER BOILED DUMPLINGS WITH THESE SWEET ONES!

IT MELTS OH-SO-SMOOTHLY!

BUT WHAT A DELIGHTFUL SURPRISE THIS IS!

THIS IS A SURPRISE ATTACK!

WHEN CONSIDERING IT AS A ONE-TIME MEAL, SHIRO'S STRATEGY OF BRINGING SWEET DUMPLINGS AT THE END IS QUITE BRILLIANT.

WITH NOVELTY AND ELEGANCE, THE STEAMED DUMPLINGS FROM OUYAMA TOOK THE LEAD,

THUS, THIS MATCH ENDS IN A DRAW!

HMM...

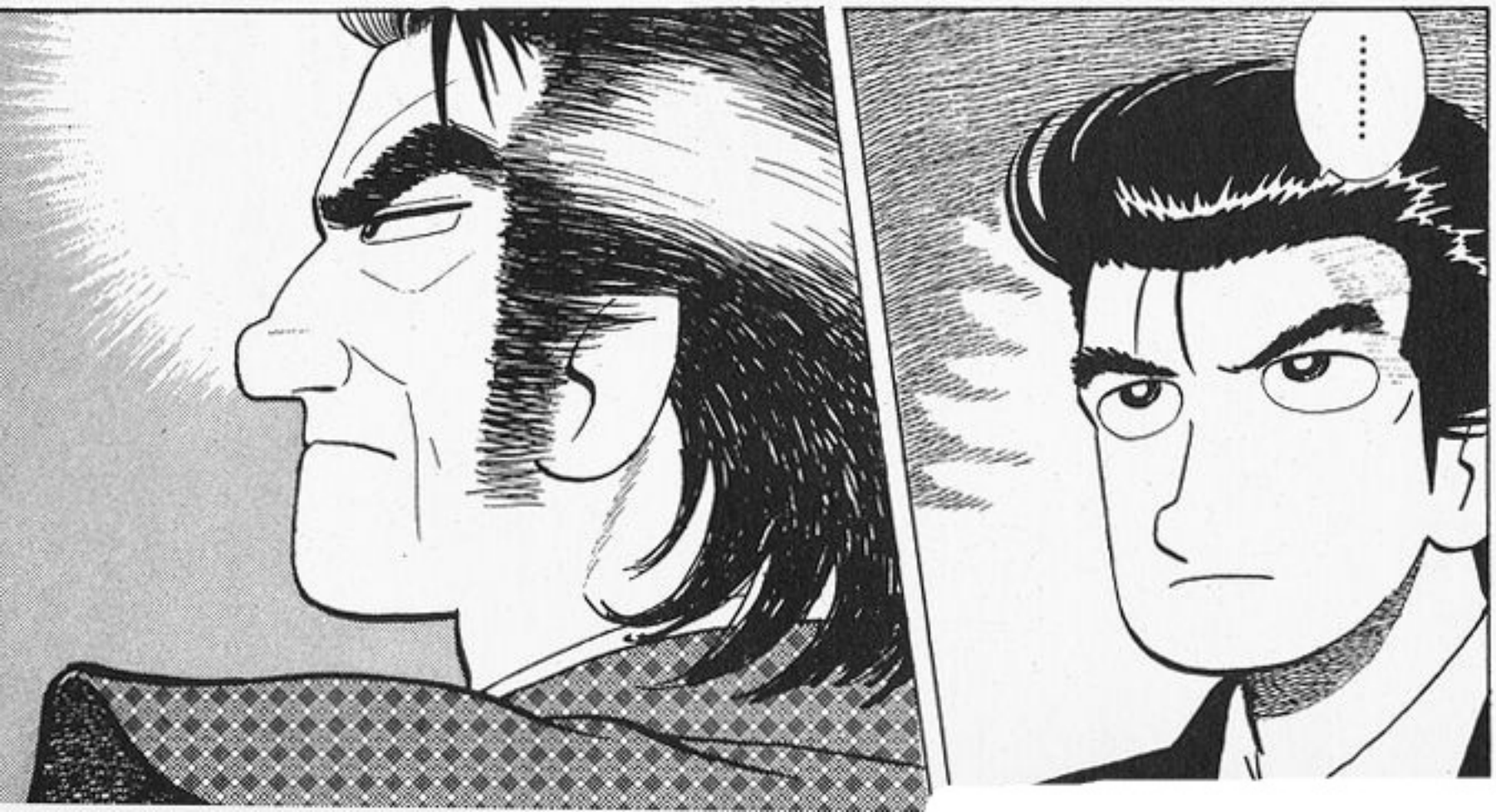
DELICIOUS!

WATCHING TODAY'S GYOZA SHOWDOWN MADE IT CLEAR THAT I STILL HAVE MUCH TO LEARN.
YAMAWAKI-SAN...

LET'S MAKE SURE WE'RE READY FOR WHAT'S NEXT!
AH, BUT THE GYOZA IS A SPECIAL CASE!

I HAD NO RIGHT TO BE SO RUDE TO YOU.

BASED ON WHAT WE'VE LEARNED TODAY, LET'S COMPETE TO CREATE EVEN MORE DELICIOUS GYOZA!
IT'S OKAY!


.....

THANKS TO YAMAOKA-SAN, MORISAWA-SAN IS NOW MARRYING YAMAWAKI-SAN!
SO, WHEN YAMAWAKI-SAN DECIDED TO CREATE DUMPLINGS OUTSIDE OF WHAT HIS EX-WIFE HAD SET,
HE FOUND THE COURAGE TO START A NEW LIFE WITH MORISAWA-SAN, CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?!
GOOD.
SO WE ALL DECIDED TO SEND A LITTLE CELEBRATION GIFT.
YAMAOKA-SAN'S SHARE IS FIVE THOUSAND YEN!
バサッ
NO KIDDING! I HELP WITH THIS NEW DUMPLING RECIPE AND THEY WANT TO CHARGE ME FOR IT?!
OH MY! HOW STINGY AND TIGHT-FISTED COULD YOU BE?! I GET IT NOW!
WHAT?!
HOW STINGY AND DARK-HEARTED...
THAT BROWN SUGAR DUMPLING IS JUST SO QUINTESSENTIALLY YAMAOKA-SAN!
W-WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
STINGY!

22

第2話

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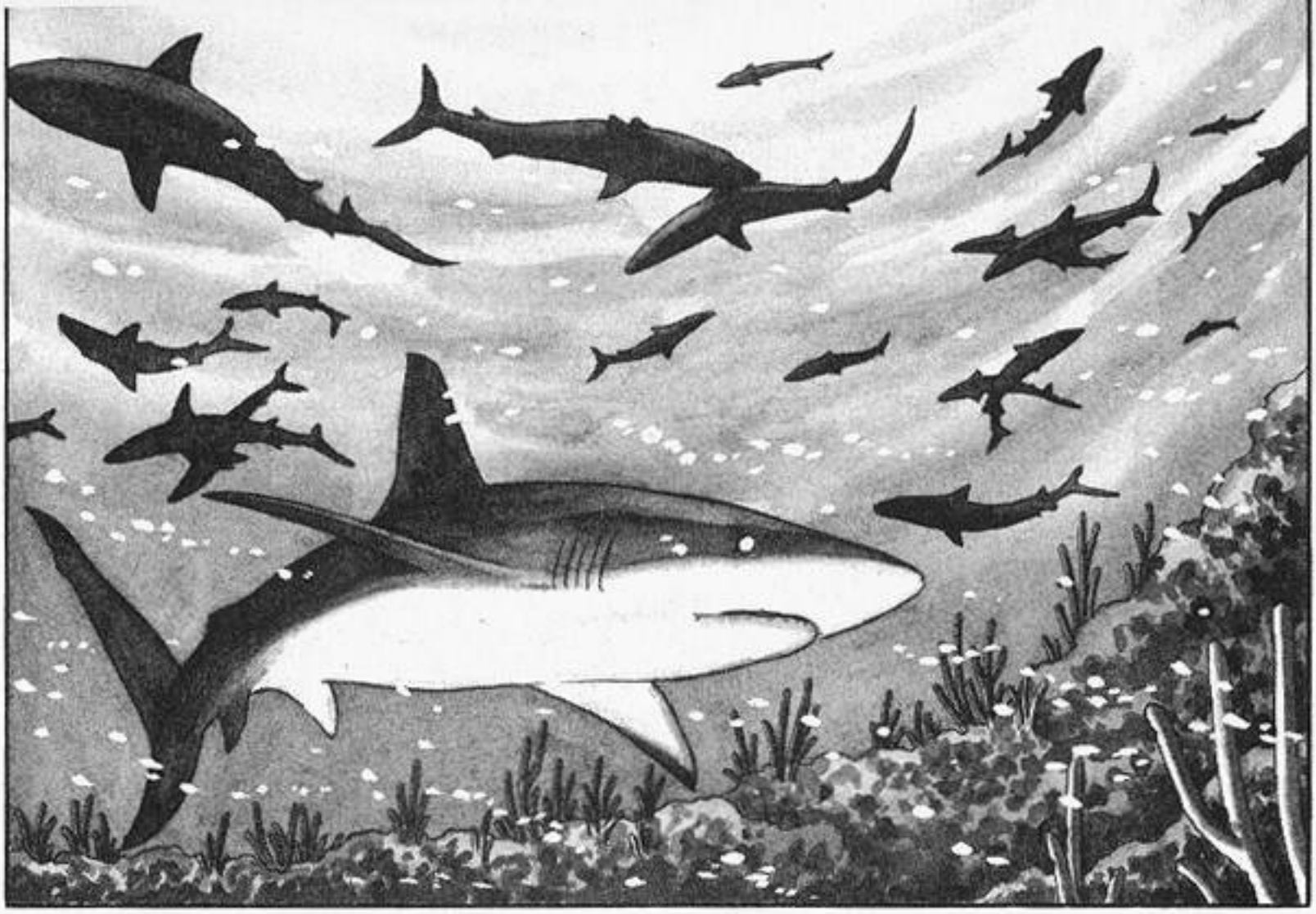

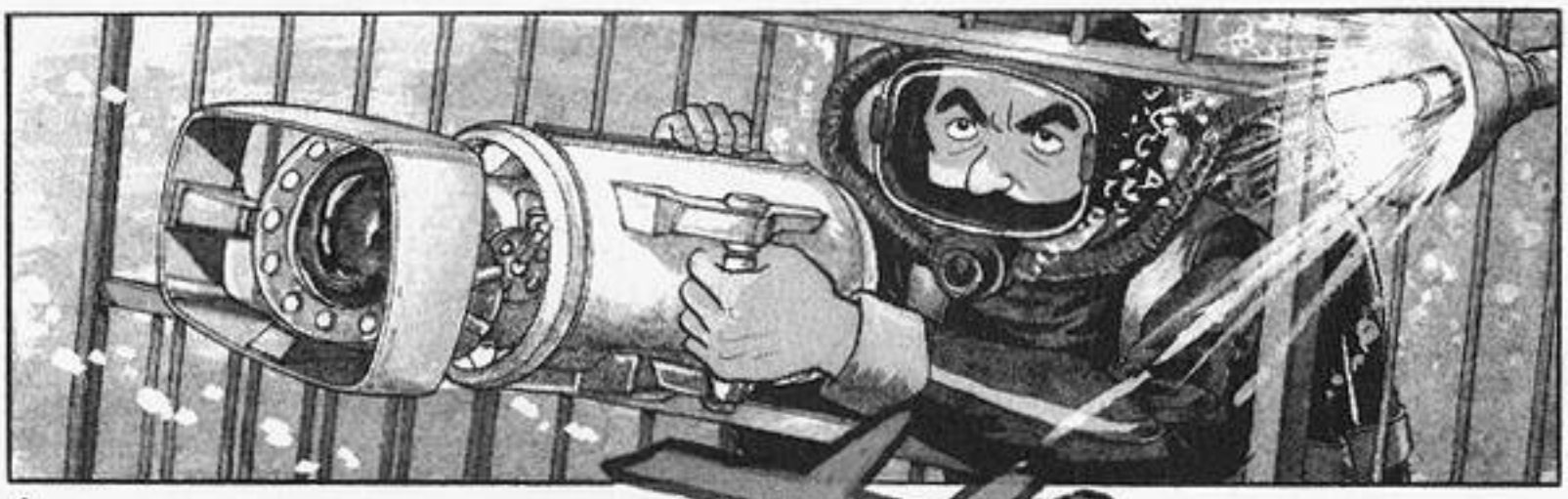

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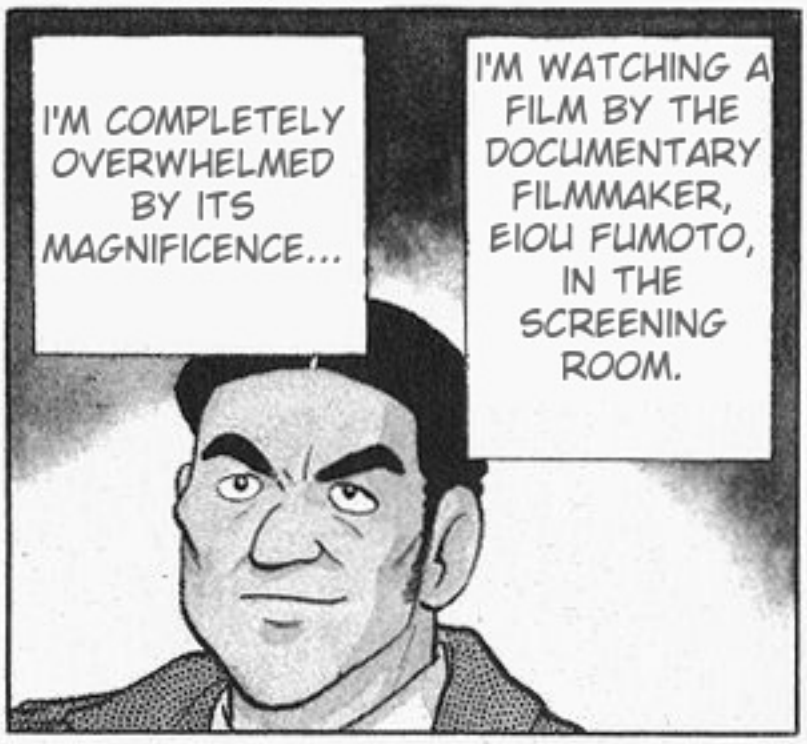
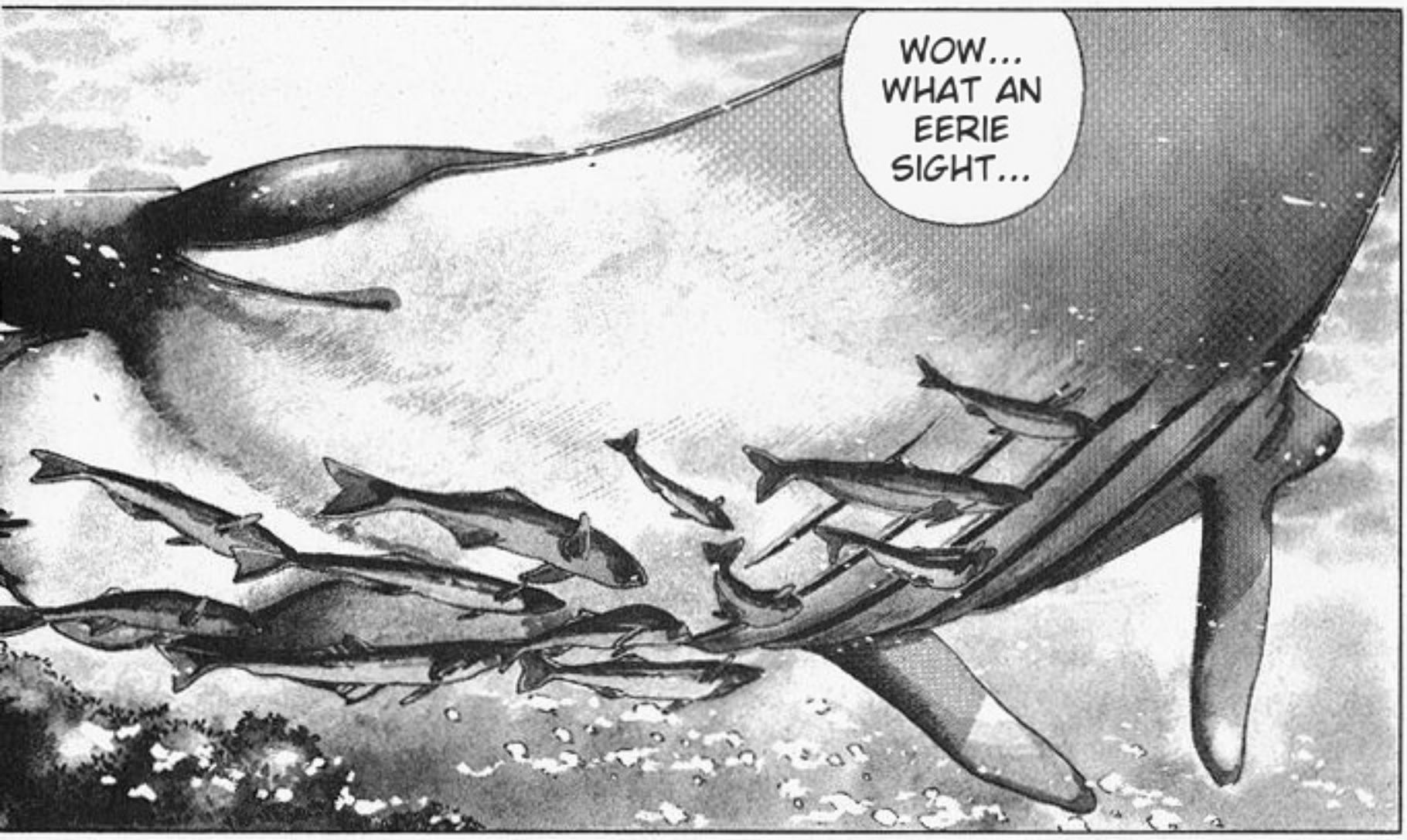
DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED 17





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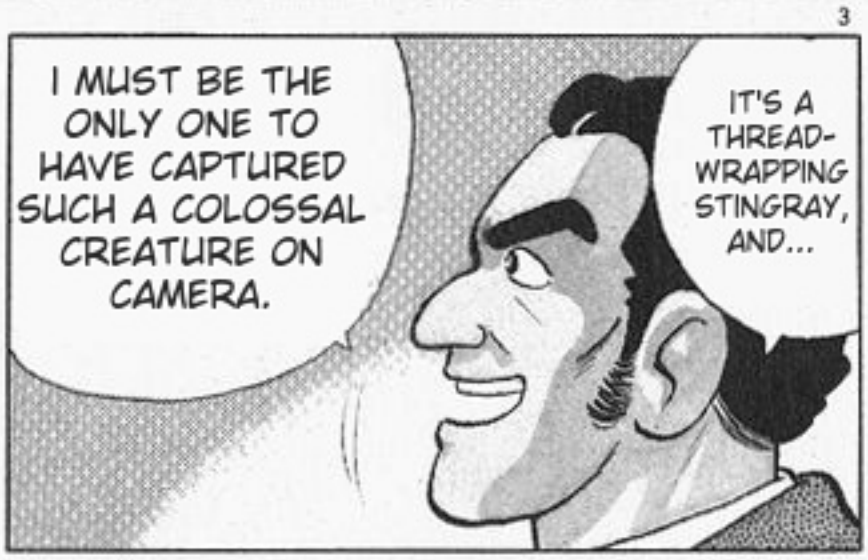
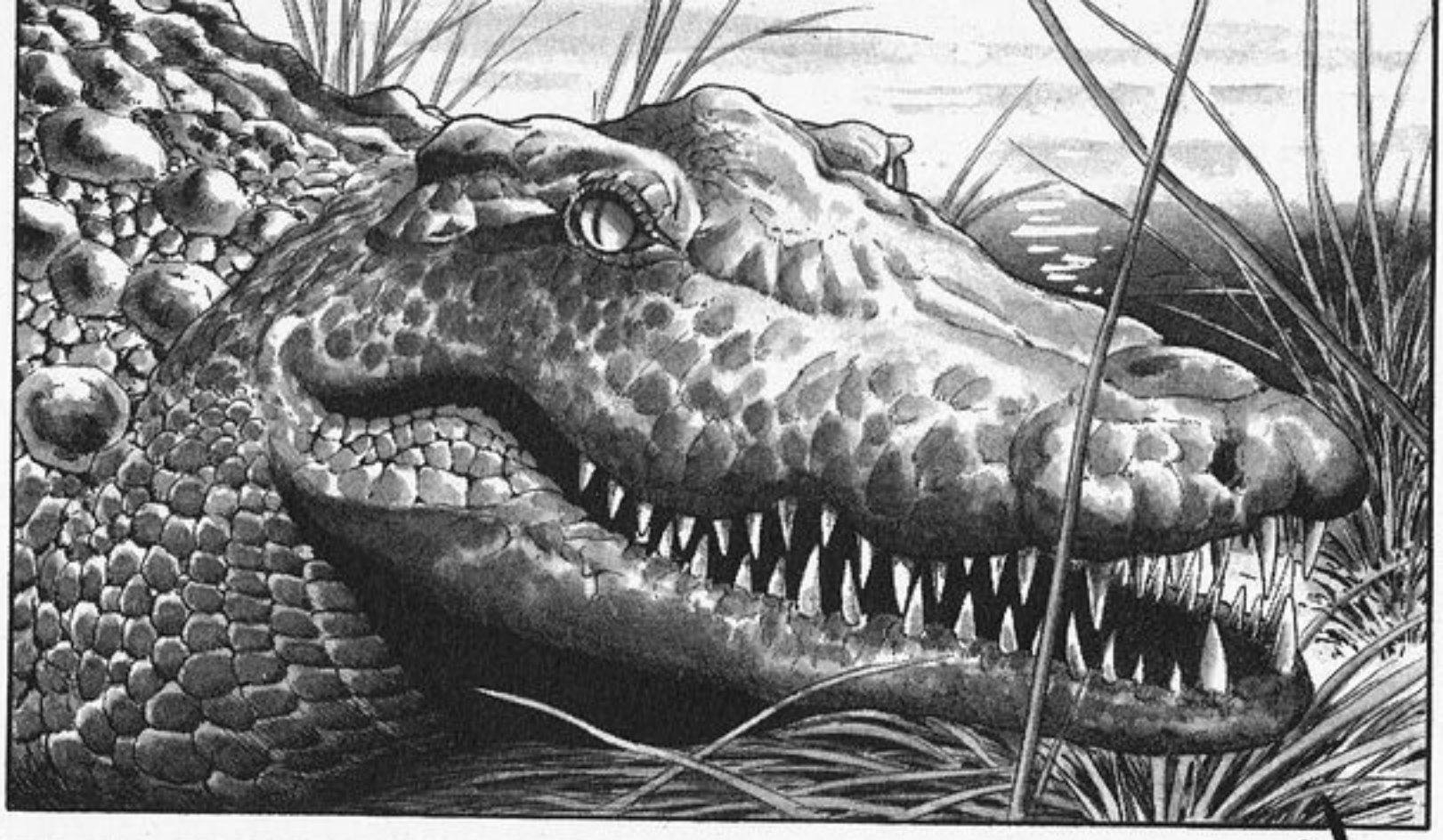
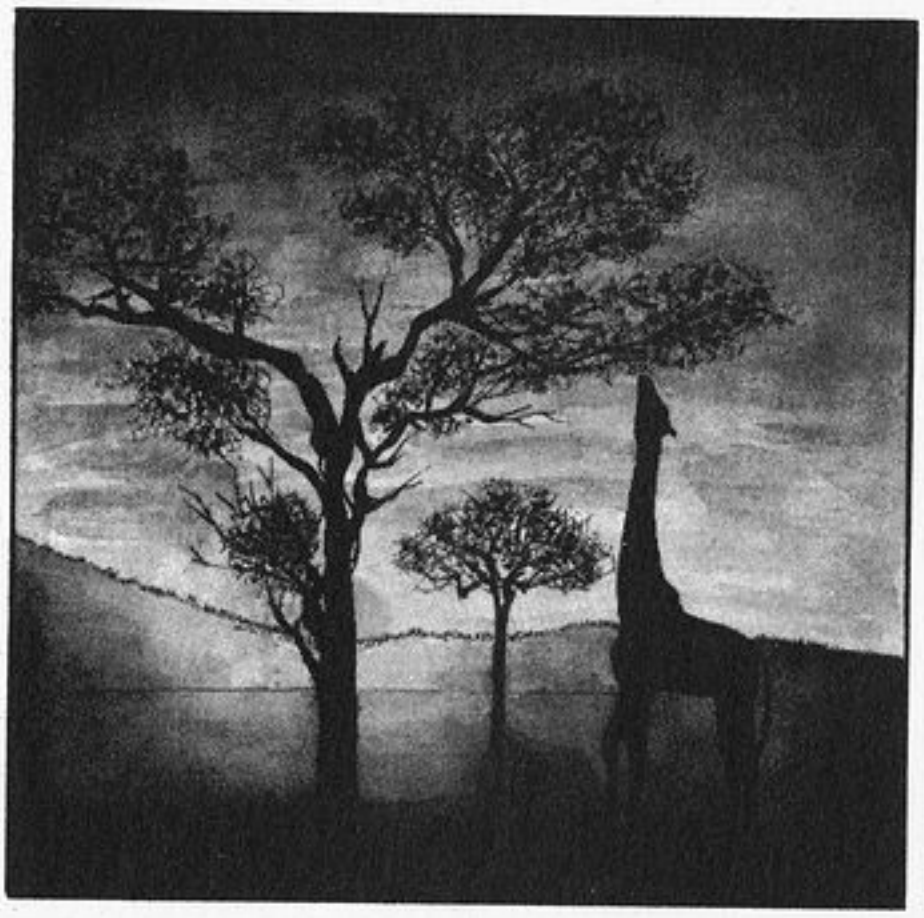
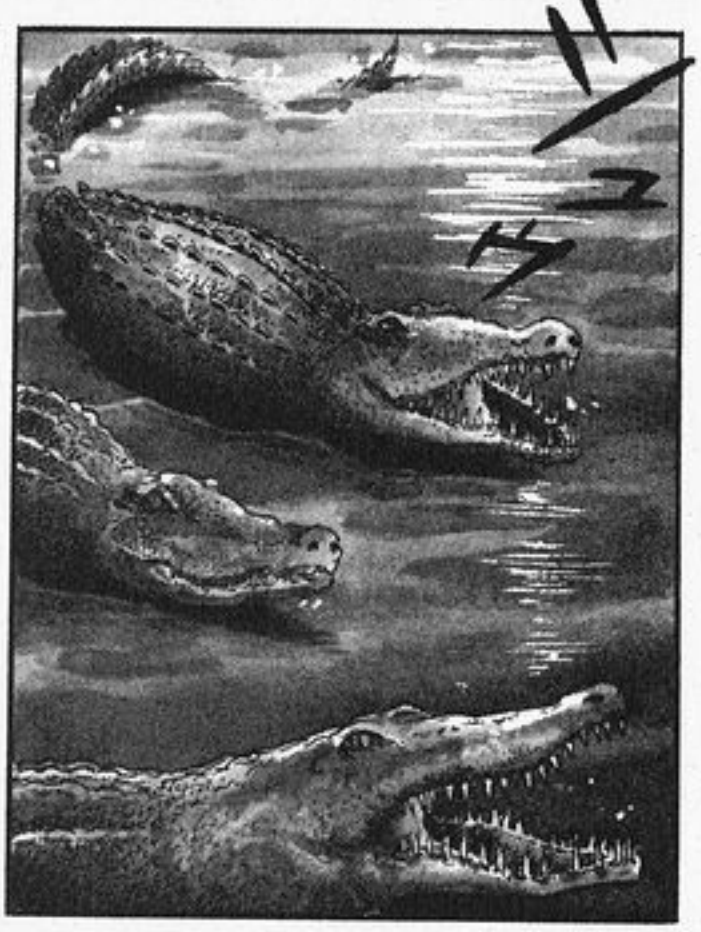
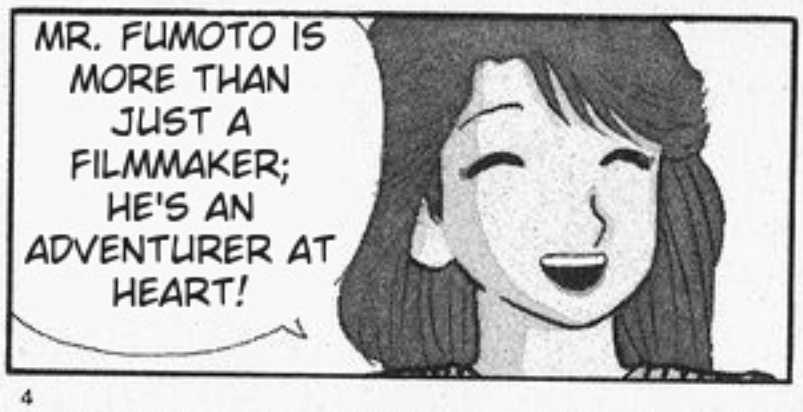
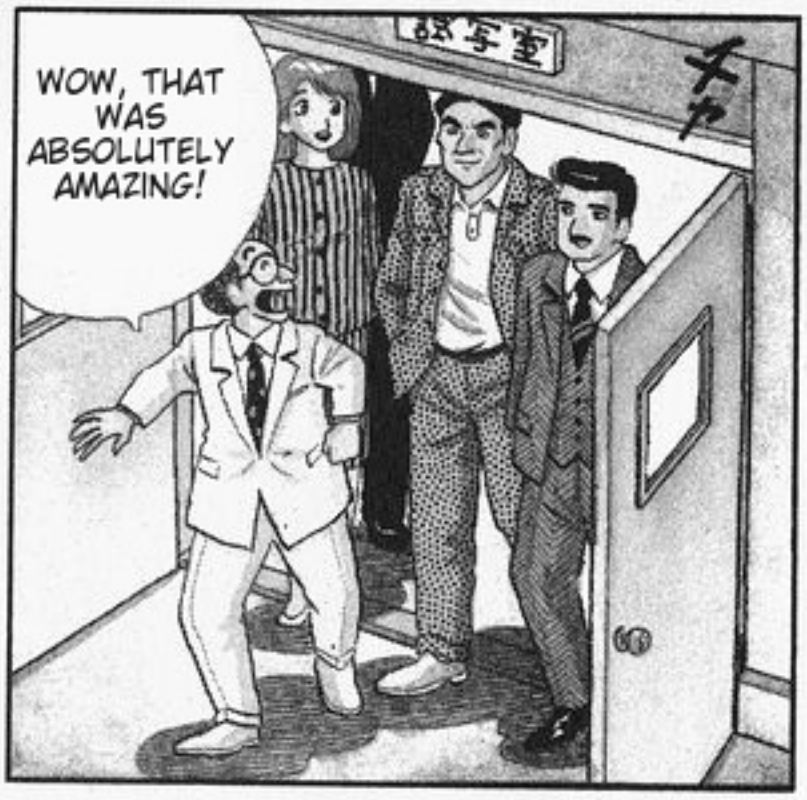




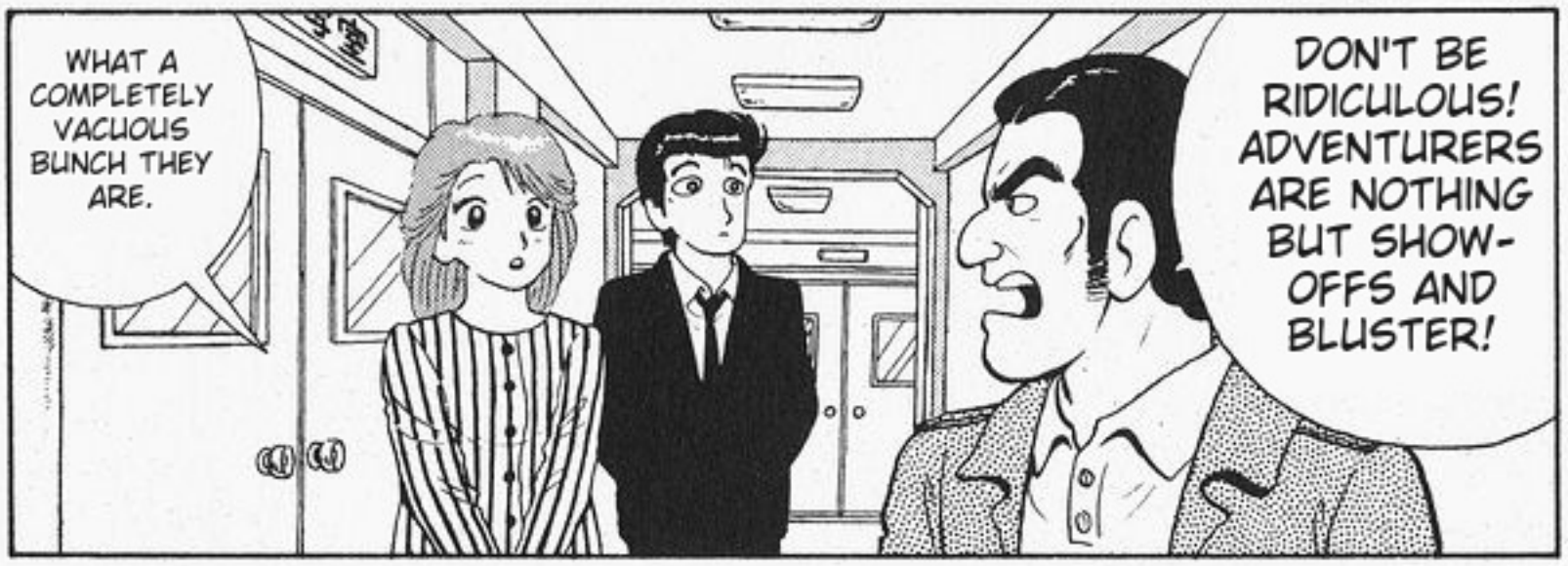


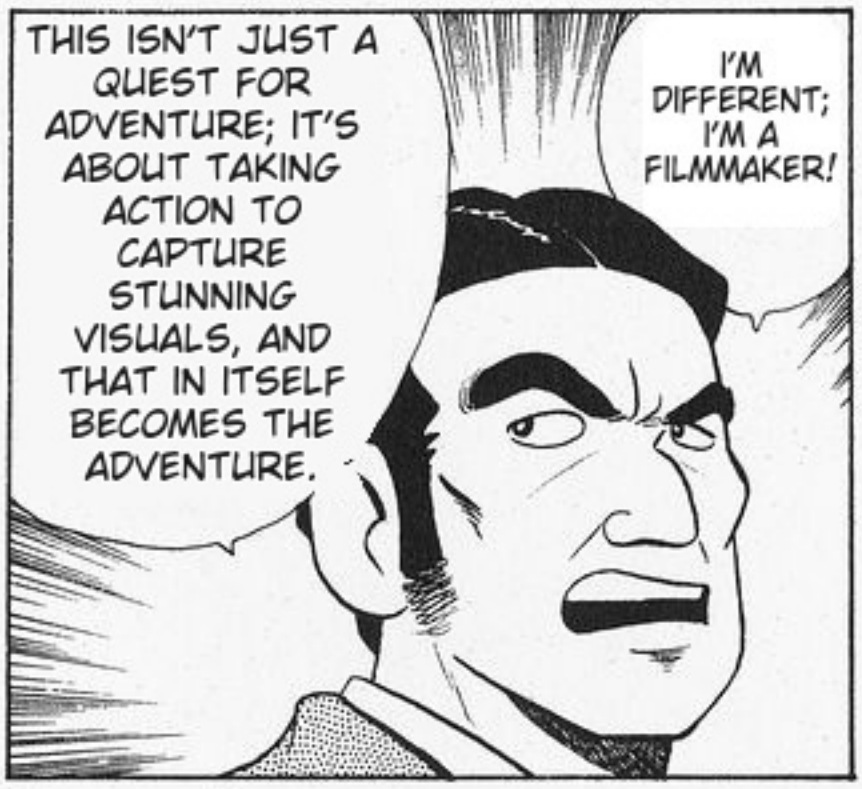



MR. FUMOTO IS MORE THAN JUST A FILMMAKER; HE'S AN ADVENTURER AT HEART!


WOW, THAT WAS ABSOLUTELY AMAZING!

DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED 17





WOW, YOU'RE JUST RADIATING CONFIDENCE FROM HEAD TO TOE...

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ABSOLUTELY! YOUR GRAPH MAGAZINE IS ABOUT TO SKYROCKET IN SALES!!

TANIMURA-SAN! I NEED YOUR HELP!

東西新聞社

6

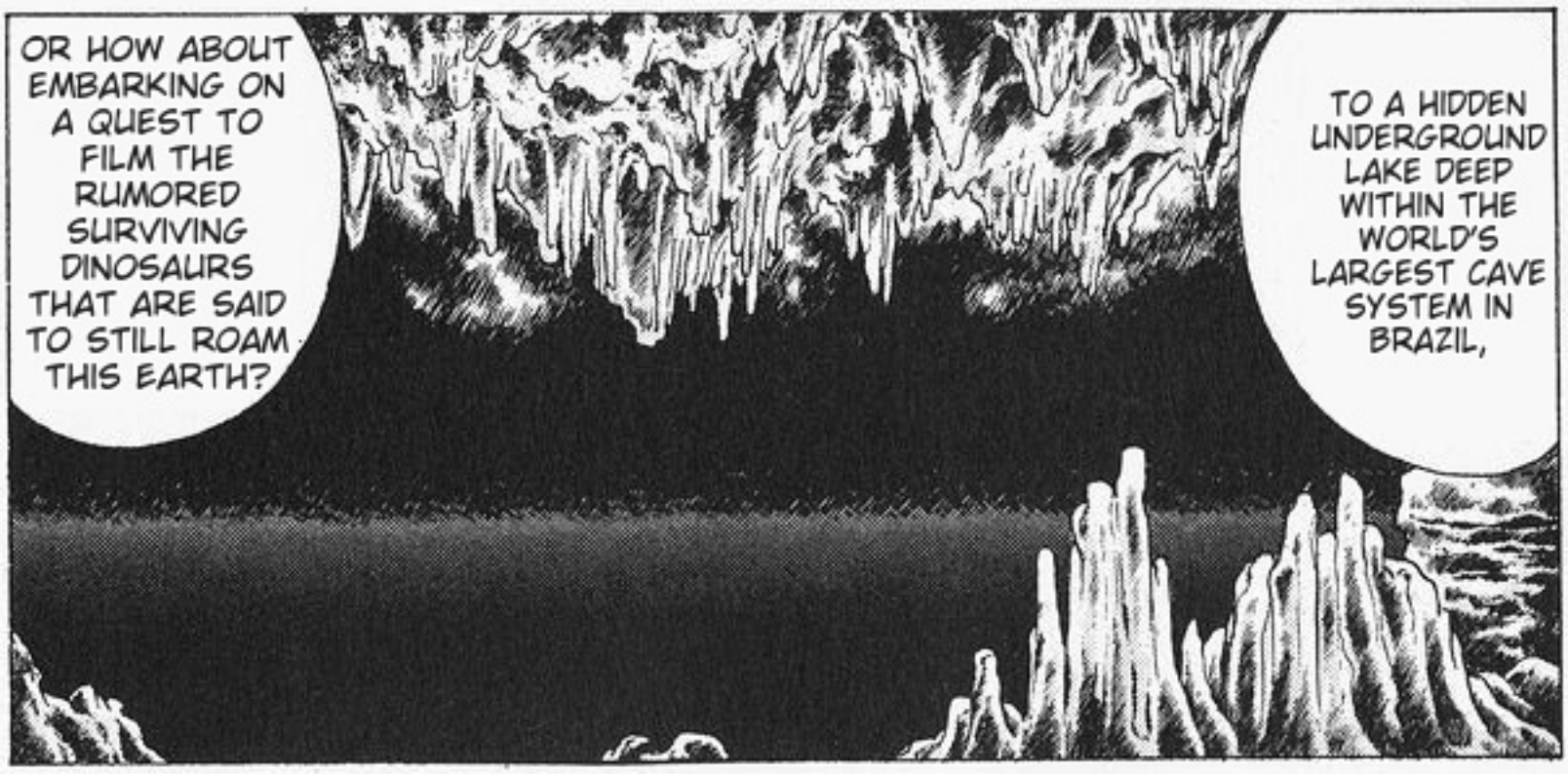
WHEN I HEARD HIS PLANS, I WAS BLOWN AWAY AGAIN!!

THE PERSON YOU INTRODUCED, MR. **FUMOTO**, IS INDEED A REMARKABLE TALENT!

OH, IT'S MR. KII FROM TOZAI TV.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

DELICIOUS!


OR HOW ABOUT EMBARKING ON A QUEST TO FILM THE RUMORED SURVIVING DINOSAURS THAT ARE SAID TO STILL ROAM THIS EARTH?
TO A HIDDEN UNDERGROUND LAKE DEEP WITHIN THE WORLD'S LARGEST CAVE SYSTEM IN BRAZIL,

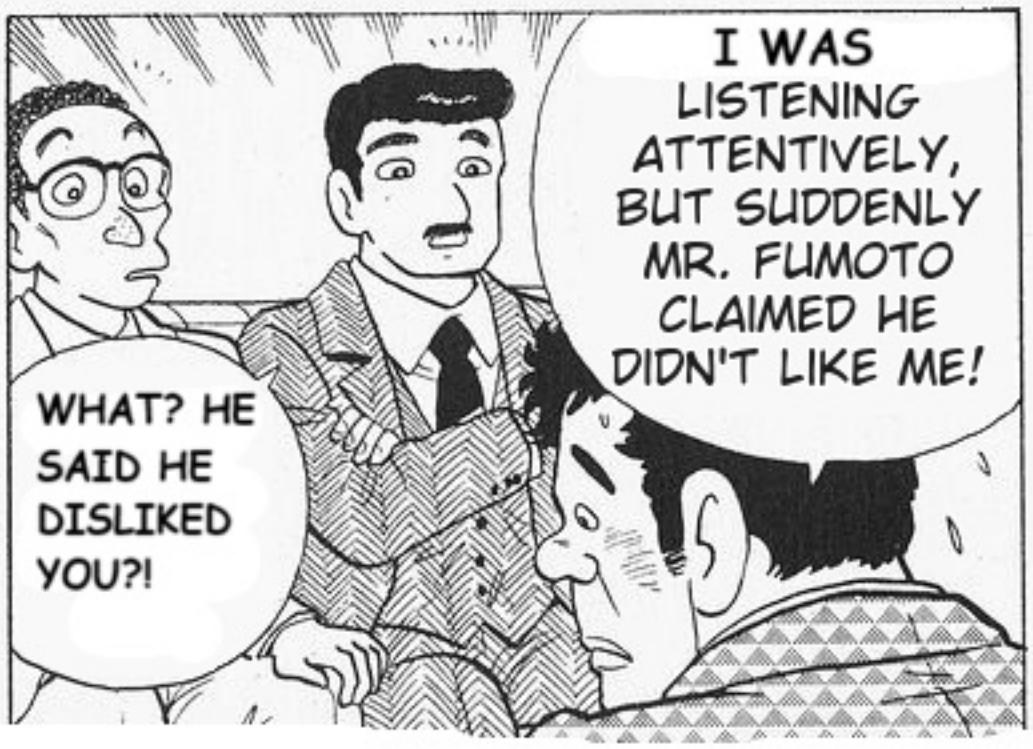
JUST HEARING ABOUT IT MAKES MY HEART RACE WITH EXCITEMENT!
WOW!

EACH IDEA IS A TREASURE TROVE FOR CREATING AN EXTRAORDINARY SHOW!
LIKE HEADING DEEP INTO THE MARIANA TRENCH TO CAPTURE FOOTAGE OF THOSE COLOSSAL FOUR-LEGGED FISH...

I THOUGHT THE SAME.

7

SO HE DOESN'T WANT TO WORK TOGETHER ANYMORE.
HE DID.


I WAS LISTENING ATTENTIVELY, BUT SUDDENLY MR. FUMOTO CLAIMED HE DIDN'T LIKE ME!
WHAT? HE SAID HE DISLIKED YOU?!

I'VE BEEN STRUGGLING TO COME UP WITH A FITTING CONCEPT FOR NEXT SUMMER'S ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL! IF WE CREATE WHAT HE SUGGESTS, IT'S BOUND TO BE A HIT.

BUT I REALLY WANT TO WORK WITH HIM!!!

YOU'RE JUST LIKE A KID, AREN'T YOU!?

HONESTLY... I JUST CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHY HE WOULD DISLIKE ME SO MUCH.

HE'S GOT TALENT, BUT HE'S DEFINITELY A QUIRKY ONE.

HMM...

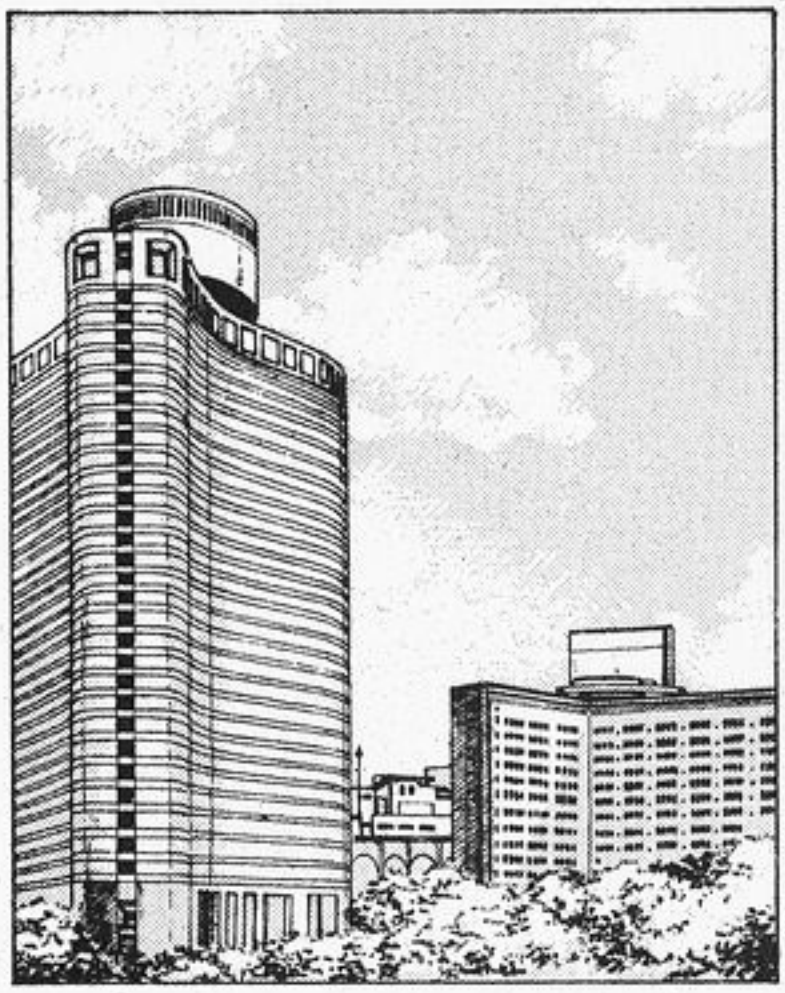
I WANT YOU TO TELL HIM TO TEAM UP WITH ME! PLEASE!

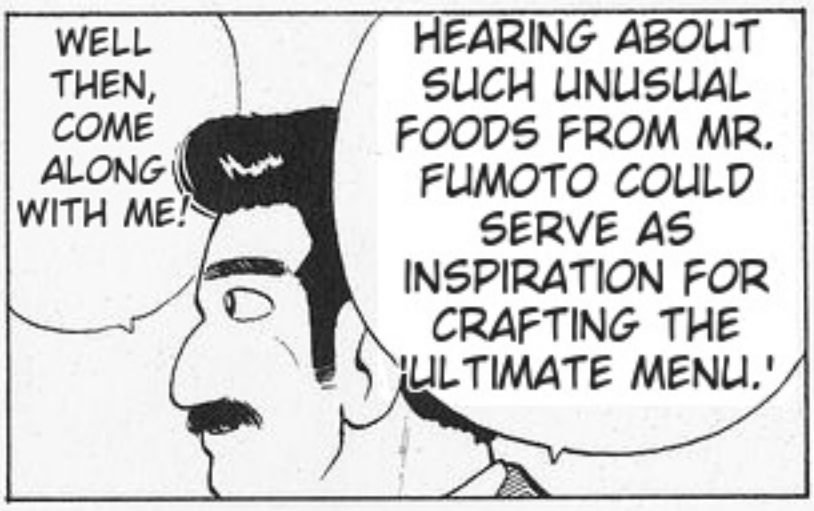
PLEASE, I NEED YOU TO CONVINCE THAT GUY!

8

IT SEEMS MR. FUMOTO HAS QUITE THE APETITE FOR GOOD FOOD...

DELICIOUSNESS CHRONICLES 17





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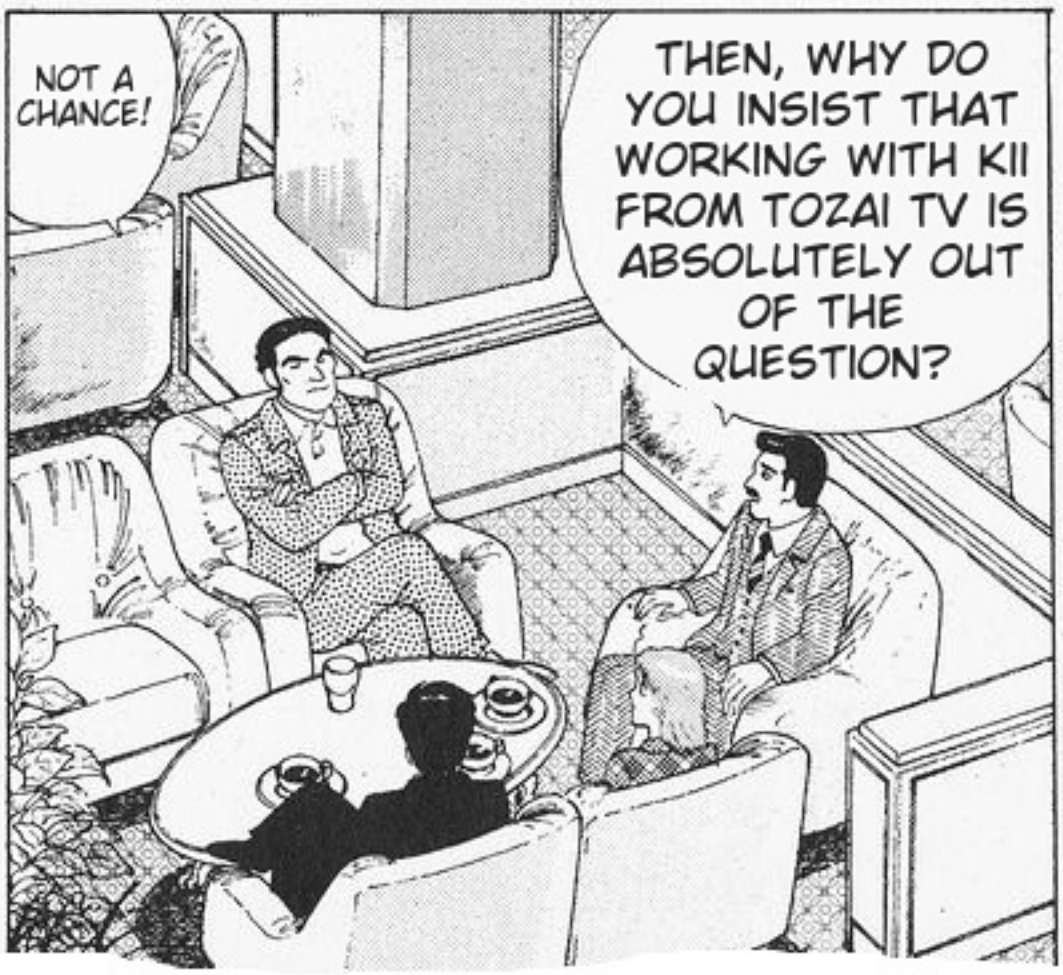

THIS IS A MATTER OF SENSIBILITY.

WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE THERE'S ANY SPECIFIC REASON BEHIND IT!

SENSIBILITY?

I REALLY CAN'T BELIEVE THERE WAS EVER ANYTHING THAT WOULD WARRANT SUCH DISLIKE...

BUT WHY DO YOU DISLIKE KII-KUN SO MUCH?

I CAN'T STAND THE SCENT OF THAT COLOGNE HE USES!!

HIS FASHION SENSE? DON'T EVEN GET ME STARTED.

I JUST CAN'T STAND HIS FACE, HIS VOICE GRATES ON ME.

TO DO A GREAT JOB, IT'S ABSOLUTELY CRUCIAL THAT YOU AND YOUR PARTNER'S VIBES ALIGN PERFECTLY.

I SUPPOSE THAT'S COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO ONE'S SKILLS AS A PRODUCER, BUT STILL...

IT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT THING FOR ME.

WAIT, IS THAT REALLY YOUR REASON FOR HATING HIM?!

OVER SOMETHING SO SUPERFICIAL...

DELICIOUSNESS CHRONICLES 17

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THEY SAY THE MEAT GETS TOUGH IF IT GROWS TOO BIG.

THE MEAT IS WHITE AND QUITE TASTY, YOU KNOW.

I SEE... HOW ABOUT A CROCODILE STEAK?

THEY EAT FRUIT? THAT'S A SURPRISE!

HUH? BUT THAT'S STRANGE; THERE COULDN'T HAVE BEEN CROCODILES IN JAPAN SINCE ANCIENT TIMES...

I THINK I READ SOMEWHERE IN A MAGAZINE THAT IT'S A TRADITIONAL LOCAL DISH...

WHAT? IN JAPAN?!

BUT IN JAPAN, THEY EAT CROCODILES TOO, RIGHT?

THAT WOULD BE THE SHARK, RIGHT? BACK IN THE DAY, THEY CALLED SHARKS CROCODILES, AND EVEN TODAY IN THE CHUGOKU REGION, THEY STILL USE THE TERM FOR SHARKS.

REMEMBER THE STORY OF THE WHITE RABBIT FROM INABA? THE ONE TRICKED BY THE RABBIT, WHO, IN A FIT OF RAGE, ENDS UP SKINNING IT?

OH, I SEE, IT'S A SHARK...

THAT CROCODILE REFERS TO SHARKS, YOU KNOW.

AH, I GET IT NOW.

WHAT, SHARKS?

I'D NEVER EAT A SHARK!

NOT EVEN CLOSE!

YOU'VE PROBABLY HAD YOUR FAIR SHARE OF SHARK BY NOW, HAVEN'T YOU?

HAVE YOU TRIED IT?

I DID SEE A RAY IN THAT DOCUMENTARY THE OTHER DAY, BUT HOW ABOUT YOU?

STOP ASKING ME ALL THESE UNCOMFORTABLE QUESTIONS!!

THAT WOULD MEAN YOU HAD PLENTY OF CHANCES TO EAT SHARK, DON'T YOU THINK...?

OH, BUT IF YOU'RE FILMING, YOU MUST BE GOING TO PLACES FULL OF SHARKS, RIGHT?

I WON'T EVEN EAT SHARK FIN FROM CHINESE CUISINE.

OH, THERE WERE SHARKS EVERYWHERE! BUT I ABSOLUTELY LOATHE THEM, EATING ONE IS OUT OF THE QUESTION!

I SEE... SO NEITHER SHARKS NOR RAYS RESONATE WITH YOUR ARTISTIC SENSIBILITIES.

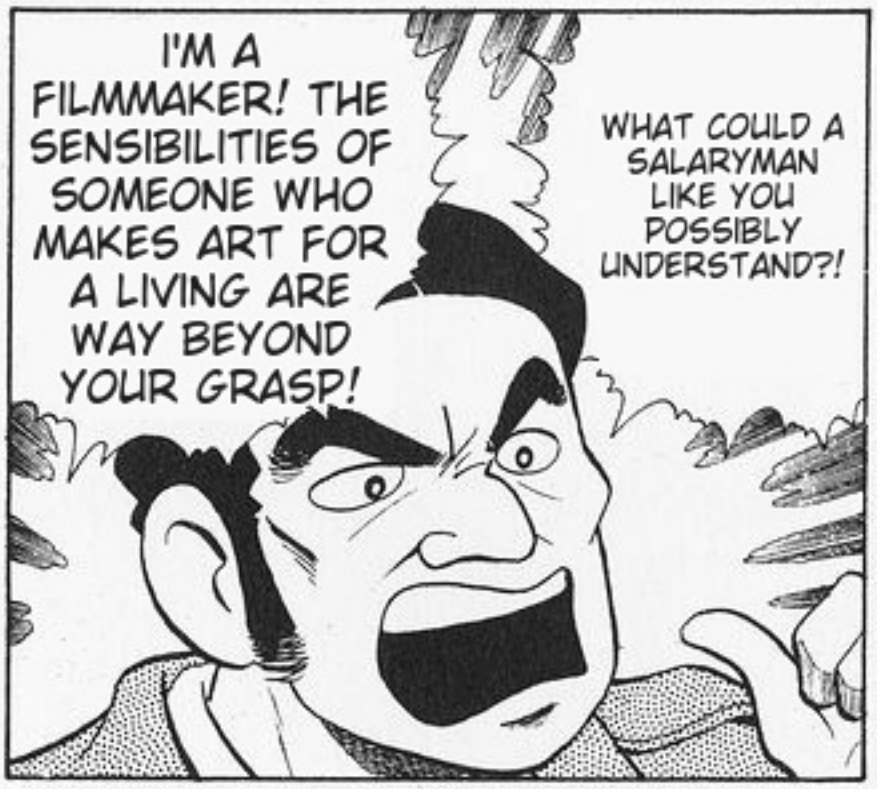
MY GOODNESS! YOU REALLY ARE QUITE THE ECCENTRIC...

I'M NOT SOME KIND OF WEIRDO WHO EATS RAYS, YOU KNOW!

I MAY FILM THEM FOR DOCUMENTARIES, BUT THERE ARE PLENTY OF THINGS I REALLY CAN'T STAND.

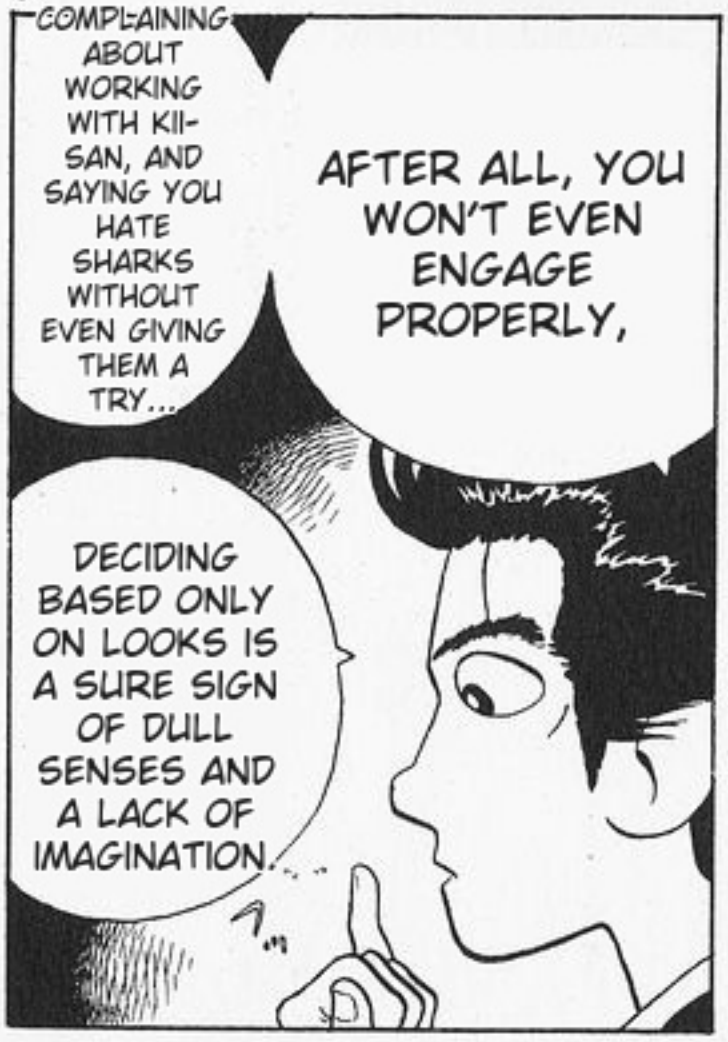
OF COURSE NOT!

YOU'RE JUDGING WITHOUT EVEN TASTING, JUST GOING BY APPEARANCES.
HMM... ESSENTIALLY, THAT'S JUST PLAIN OLD PICKY EATING.

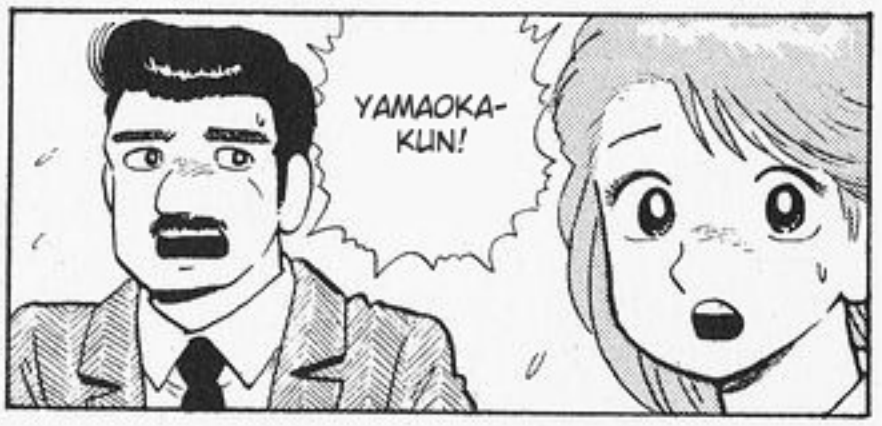

I'M A FILMMAKER! THE SENSIBILITIES OF SOMEONE WHO MAKES ART FOR A LIVING ARE WAY BEYOND YOUR GRASP!
WHAT COULD A SALARYMAN LIKE YOU POSSIBLY UNDERSTAND?!

WHAT IS IT?!
WELL, WHEN IT COMES TO FOOD, I SUPPOSE IT'S UNDERSTANDABLE TO BE PICKY, BUT IF YOU TREAT WORK THE SAME WAY, THAT'S JUST UNBEARABLE.

14


COMPLAINING ABOUT WORKING WITH KII-SAN, AND SAYING YOU HATE SHARKS WITHOUT EVEN GIVING THEM A TRY...
AFTER ALL, YOU WON'T EVEN ENGAGE PROPERLY,
DECIDING BASED ONLY ON LOOKS IS A SURE SIGN OF DULL SENSES AND A LACK OF IMAGINATION...

MY SENSIBILITIES ARE DULL?! HOW DARE YOU?!
TO ME, THAT SENSE SEEMS PRETTY BLUNT AND DULL, IF YOU ASK ME.


YAMAOKA-KUN!

HOW DARE YOU SPEAK DOWN TO SOMEONE LIKE ME WHO'S TOILED TIRELESSLY IN THE WORLD OF FILMMAKING!!

Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-YOU SCOUNDREL!!

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MOREOVER, WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, THE FOOTAGE OF SHARKS AND RAYS YOU SHOWED ME THE OTHER DAY FELT... LACKING.

THERE WAS NO TRUTH UNVEILED ABOUT SHARKS OR RAYS THAT WE DISCOVERED ANEW.

IT JUST SEEMED LIKE A FILM CAPTURED THROUGH THE LENS OF A CREEPY, DEVILISH STEREOTYPE OF THESE CREATURES.

AT LEAST IN THAT REGARD, I KNOW ONE MORE TRUTH ABOUT LIFE THAN YOU DO, MR. FUMOTO.

I'VE EATEN SHARKS AND RAYS, AND I THOUGHT THEY WERE ABSOLUTELY DELICIOUS.

WHAT ON EARTH DO YOU THINK YOU KNOW ABOUT ANYTHING?!!

15

HOW DO I KNOW YOU'RE NOT JUST SAYING THAT SOMETHING DISGUSTING IS DELICIOUS?!

I SEE... BUT I CAN'T TRUST YOUR TASTE AT ALL!

GRR...

OH MY! WHAT A FORCEFUL WAY TO PUT IT...

IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN MY ABILITY TO JUDGE WITHOUT TASTING MAKES ME THE SUPERIOR ONE!!

ALRIGHT, BRING ON THE SHARK OR THE RAY!!!

I WON'T BACK DOWN AFTER BEING CHALLENGED LIKE THAT!!

I'LL EAT IT, I SWEAR!!

WHAT? ARE YOU TELLING ME TO TRY SHARK OR STINGRAY?!

IT SEEMS THE ONLY WAY IS FOR YOU TO ACTUALLY TRY IT.

EVERYONE HAS THEIR LIMITS, YOU KNOW...

I'M NOT SAYING YOU HAVE TO, THOUGH.

16

GOODNESS, YOU REALLY ARE SOMETHING ELSE!

HEY, HEY, YAMAOKA-KUN...

.....

ARE YOU SERIOUSLY TELLING ME WE CAN CATCH SHARKS HERE?!

ISN'T IT FASCINATING?

WELL, YOU SEE, I HAD A LITTLE HUNCH ABOUT SOMETHING...

WHY ON EARTH DID YOU BRING ME TO THIS RUNDOWN PART OF TOWN?

YAMAOKA -SAN...

I'LL JUMP INTO THE SEA AND BECOME SHARK BAIT, MYSELF.

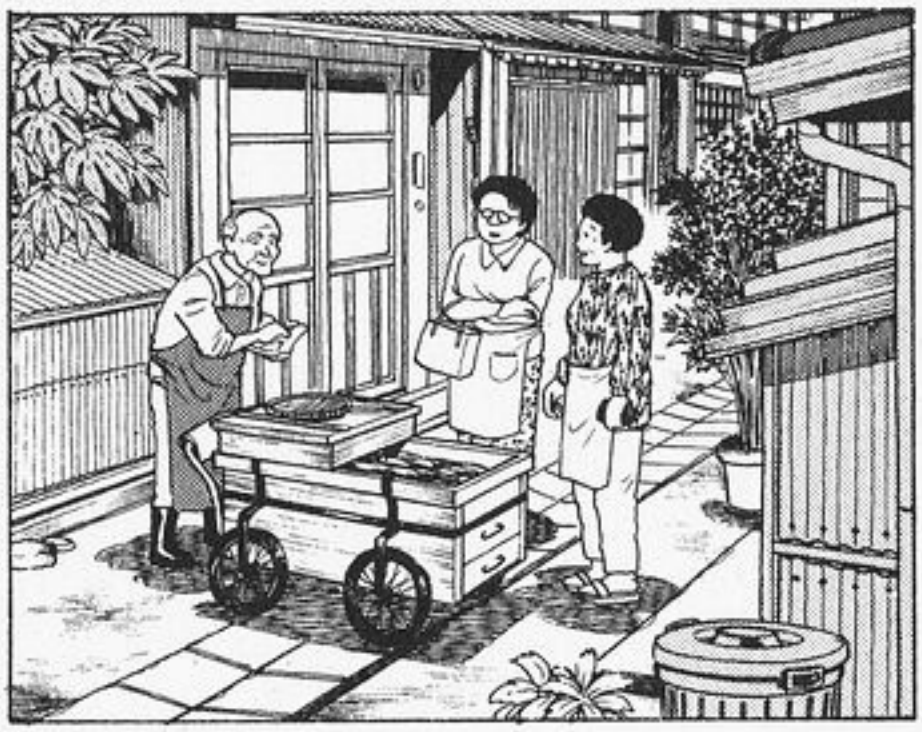
WHAT IF THE SHARK TASTES TERRIBLE? WHAT THEN?!

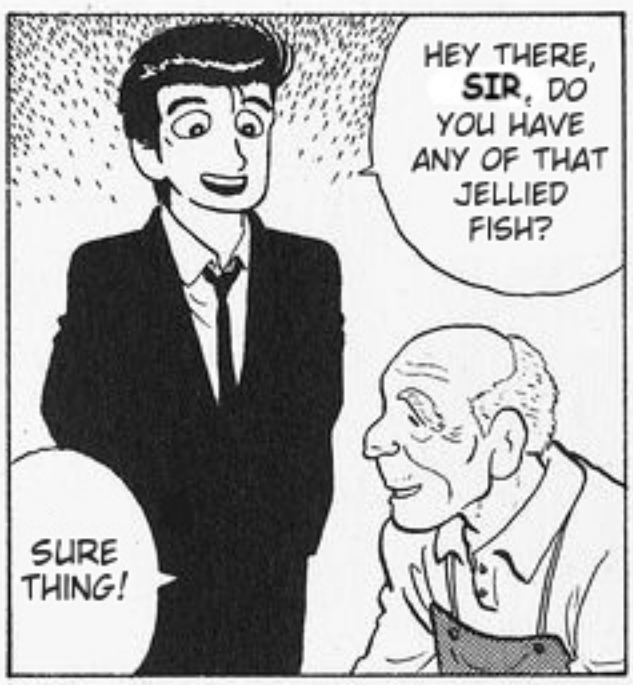
AH-HA! LOOK WHAT I'VE FOUND!

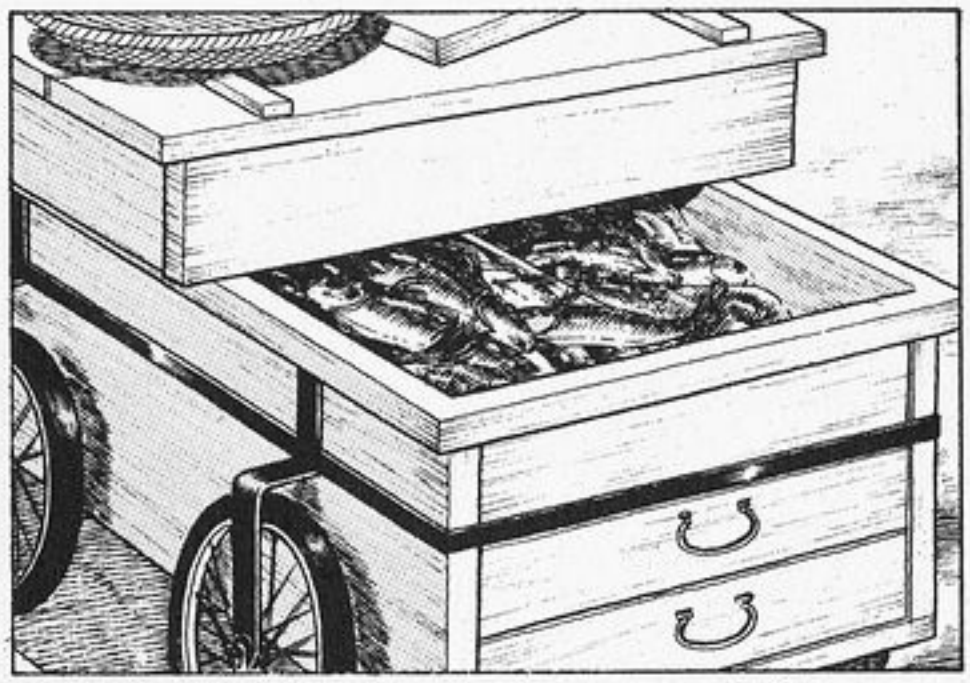
ALRIGHT, I'LL USE YOU AS BAIT TO LURE IN SOME SHARKS!!

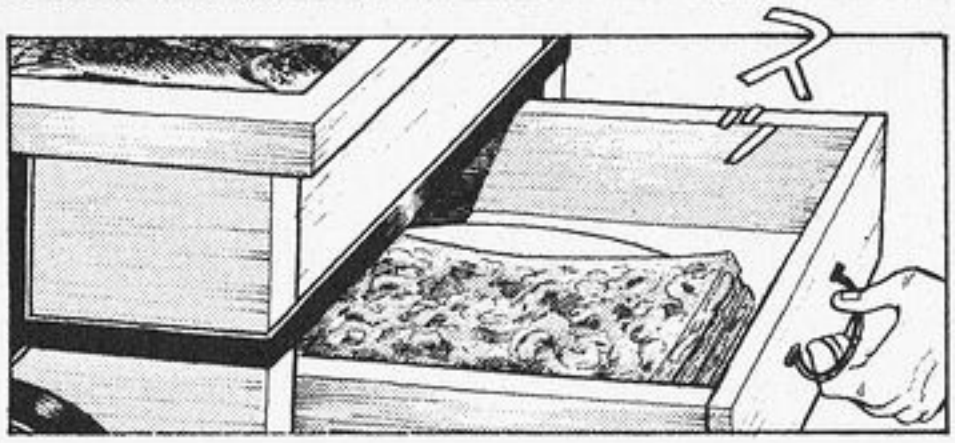
OH! YOU JUST SAID THAT!

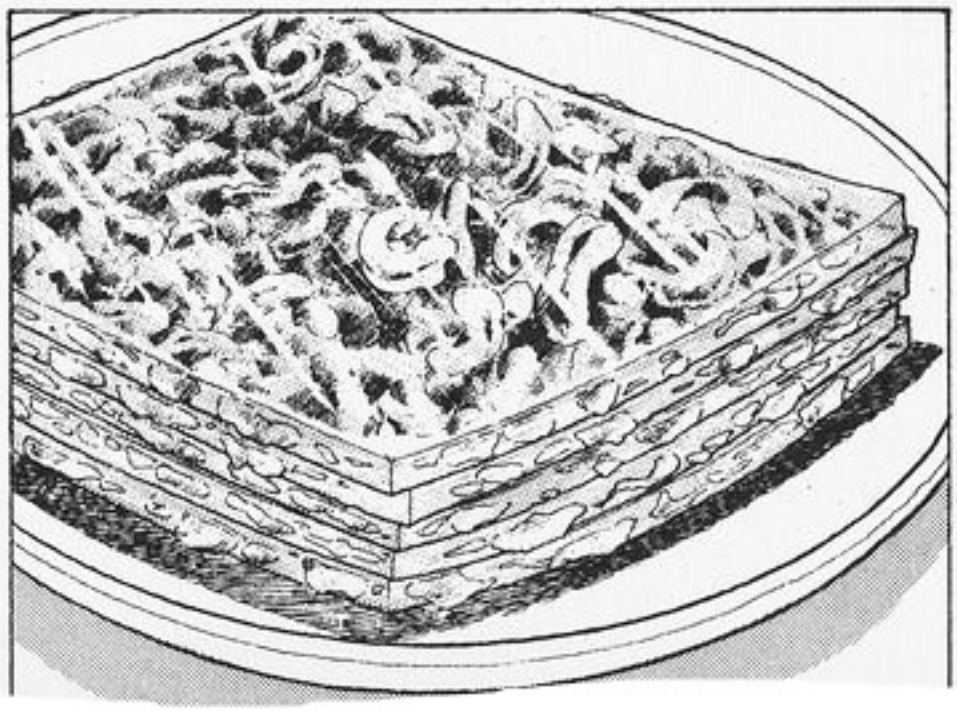
IS THAT STALL OVER THERE SELLING SHARK?
WOW... THEY STILL COME AROUND SELLING FISH LIKE THAT, HUH?



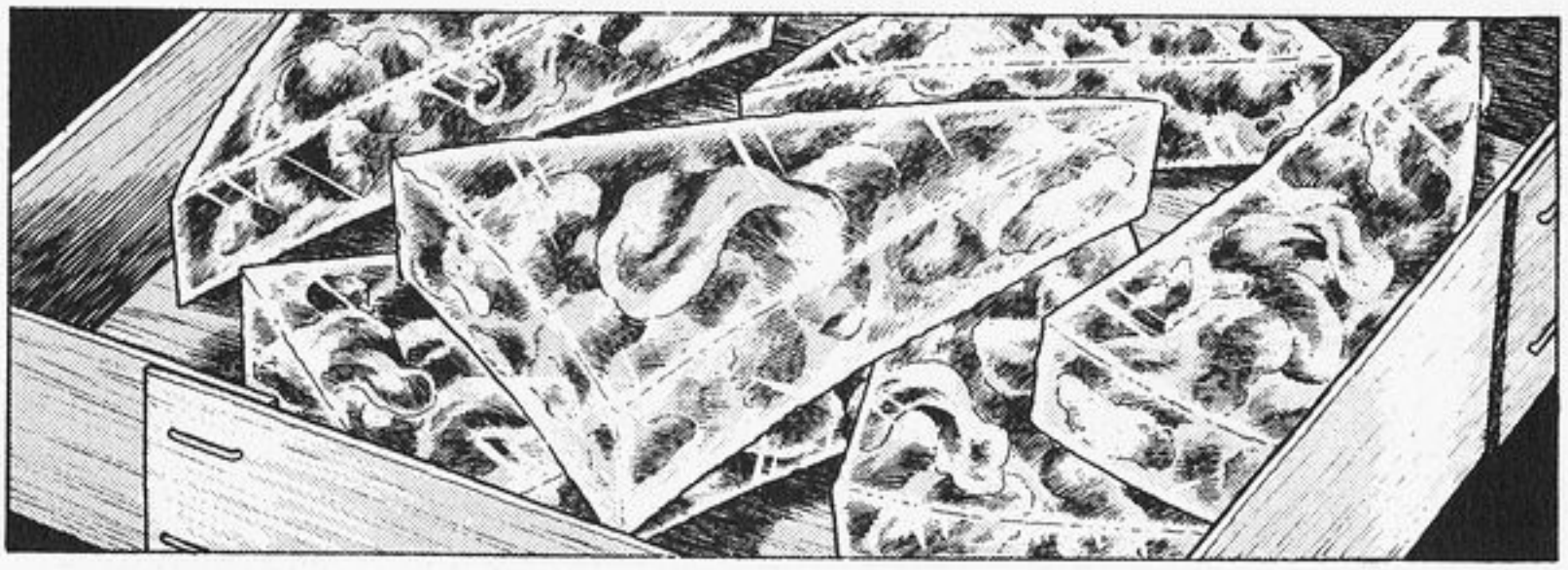

HEY THERE, SIR, DO YOU HAVE ANY OF THAT JELLIED FISH?
SURE THING!







DELICIOUS!



IT'S A DISH MADE FROM SHARK MEAT AND SKIN, SIMMERED IN SOY SAUCE AND THEN CHILLED TO CREATE A DELIGHTFUL JELLY-LIKE TEXTURE.
IT'S SHARK JELLY, YOU KNOW!

WHAT'S THIS?
GIVE IT A TRY!

SHARK MEAT AND SKIN...

.....
THIS FLAVOR, THIS FLAVOR! IT TAKES ME RIGHT BACK TO MY CHILDHOOD.

BACK IN THE DAY, YOU COULD FIND IT AT ANY OLD CANDY STORE.
OH, THE MEMORIES...

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SHARK SKIN IS PACKED WITH GELATIN, YOU KNOW.

IT MELTS IN YOUR MOUTH LIKE A DREAM! THERE'S SO MUCH GELATINOUS GOODNESS IN HERE...

クチュ

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THE SHARK'S BODY IS NATURALLY DESIGNED TO ACCUMULATE AMMONIA WITHIN IT!

THAT'S THE AMMONIA SMELL FOR YOU.

EXACTLY! IT HAS A POWERFUL AROMA, AND QUITE THE UNIQUE FLAVOR!

BUT IT REALLY IS QUITE PUNGENT!

I CAN'T FATHOM HOW ANYONE COULD ACTUALLY ENJOY THIS STENCH!

WELL, THE TASTE ISN'T THAT TERRIBLE, BUT...

INDEED, IT REEKS OF AMMONIA! HOW COULD ANYONE EAT THIS?!?!

FIRST OF ALL, THE FLAVOR ITSELF ISN'T HALF BAD, RIGHT?

IS THAT SO...? BUT ONCE YOU GET USED TO IT, THAT SCENT BECOMES UTTERLY IRRESISTIBLE.

20

THIS ISN'T A FLAVOR THAT EVERYONE WOULD RAVE ABOUT!!

DELICIOUS!

LOOKS LIKE YOU'LL HAVE TO BECOME A PART OF THE SHARK'S MENU!!
HOO
I WANT YOU TO BE THE FIRST TO SAVOR THIS JELLY-LIKE DISH,
THIS IS ALL ABOUT EXPERIENCING THAT SIGNATURE SHARK AROMA.
BUT I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT DEPENDING ON HOW IT'S COOKED, THAT DISTINCT ODOR CAN ACTUALLY TRANSFORM INTO A BOLD FLAVOR!
SURE, IT MAY HAVE A UNIQUE TASTE THAT NOT EVERYONE WOULD RAVE ABOUT.
WHAT IS IT?!
TO MAKE THAT HAPPEN, I'LL BE CALLING IN REINFORCEMENTS FROM AUSTRALIA.
FROM AUSTRALIA?
THEN LET'S GET THIS FEAST STARTED!!
21
ABSOLUTELY!

THE REMARKABLE THING ABOUT AUSTRALIANS IS THAT THEY DON'T JUST FEAR OR SHUN THOSE SHARKS.

THE WATERS AROUND AUSTRALIA ARE TEEMING WITH SHARKS.

I'LL CALL HIM OVER.

HE'S A WIZARD AT TURNING SHARK INTO A CULINARY DELIGHT.

IN ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA, THERE'S AN EXTRAORDINARY CHEF.

22

A MASTER OF SHARK CUISINE...

THIS IS GETTING INTENSE...!

第2話

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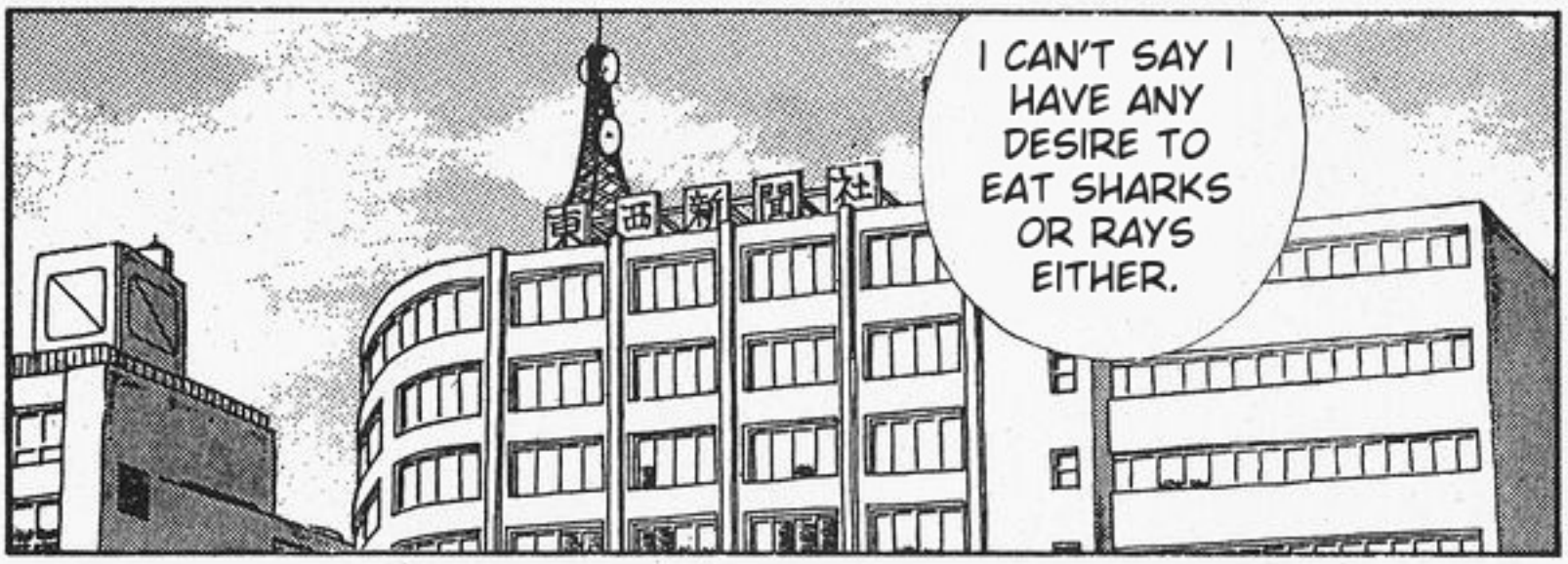
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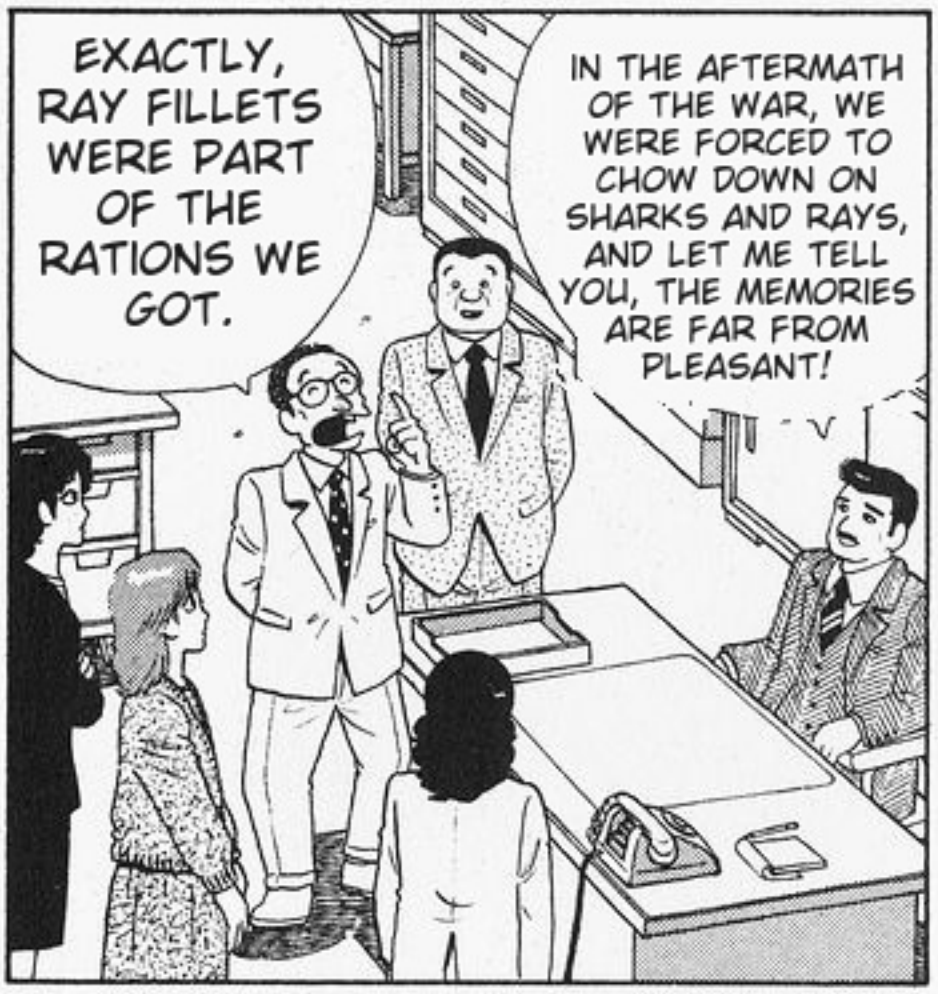
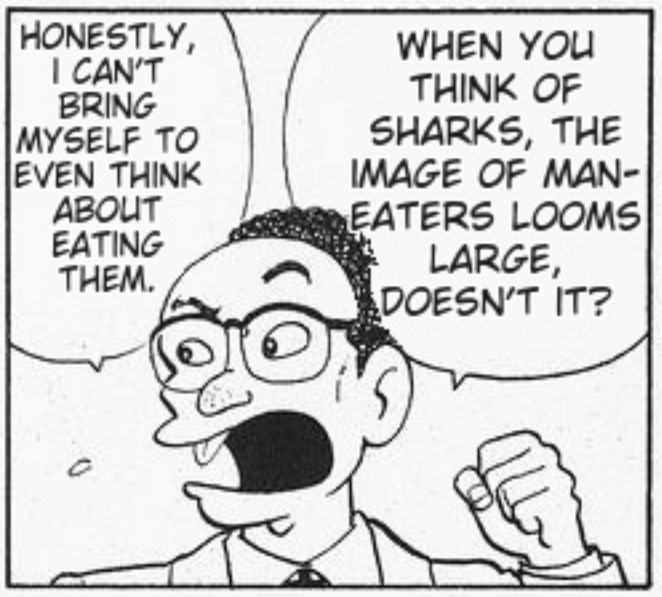
I CAN'T SAY I HAVE ANY DESIRE TO EAT SHARKS OR RAYS EITHER.


EXACTLY, RAY FILLETS WERE PART OF THE RATIONS WE GOT.
IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE WAR, WE WERE FORCED TO CHOW DOWN ON SHARKS AND RAYS, AND LET ME TELL YOU, THE MEMORIES ARE FAR FROM PLEASANT!


HONESTLY, I CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO EVEN THINK ABOUT EATING THEM.
WHEN YOU THINK OF SHARKS, THE IMAGE OF MAN-EATERS LOOMS LARGE, DOESN'T IT?

AS FOR SHARKS, COUNT ME OUT! I'M NOT A FAN OF RAYS EITHER.

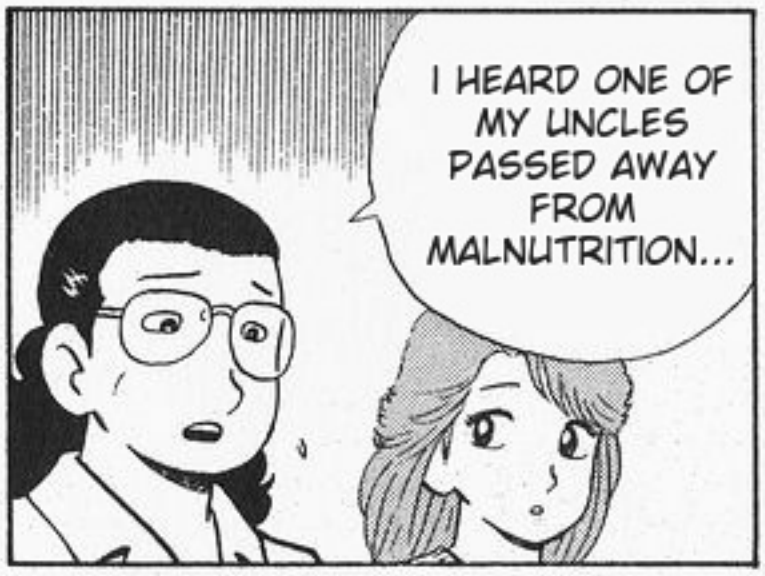
LOOKING BACK, IT'S TRULY SAD TO THINK WE ACTUALLY ATE THAT STUFF...

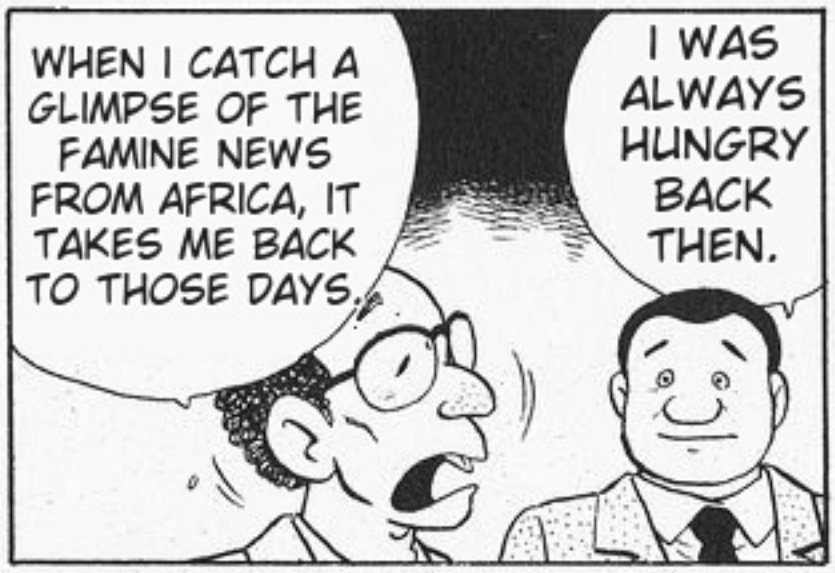
2

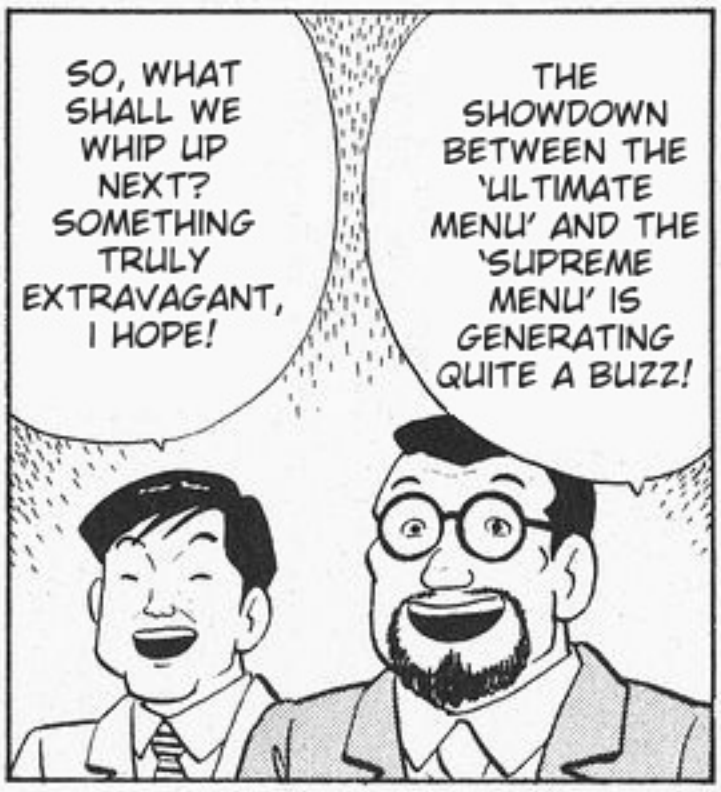
STILL, BACK THEN, IT WAS ALL ABOUT STUFFING SOMETHING INTO OUR BELLIES...
THOSE DAYS, TASTE WAS A LUXURY WE COULDN'T AFFORD,

OH, THEY LOOK QUITE SIMILAR TO SHARKS, DON'T THEY?
THEY WOULD SIMMER RAY FILLETS IN SOY SAUCE, BUT OH, THE AMMONIA STENCH WAS OVERWHELMING!

DELICIOUSNESS, VOLUME 17!







DID I SAY SOMETHING UNAPPETIZING...?

UM... WHAT IS IT?

IT SEEMS ALMOST CRIMINAL TO TALK ABOUT HOW GOOD OR BAD FOOD IS...

...WHEN I THINK ABOUT THE AFTERMATH OF THE WAR,

NO WAY...

4

I DON'T SEE IT THAT WAY.

THEY'RE BIZARRE DELICACIES! SHARKS AND RAYS.

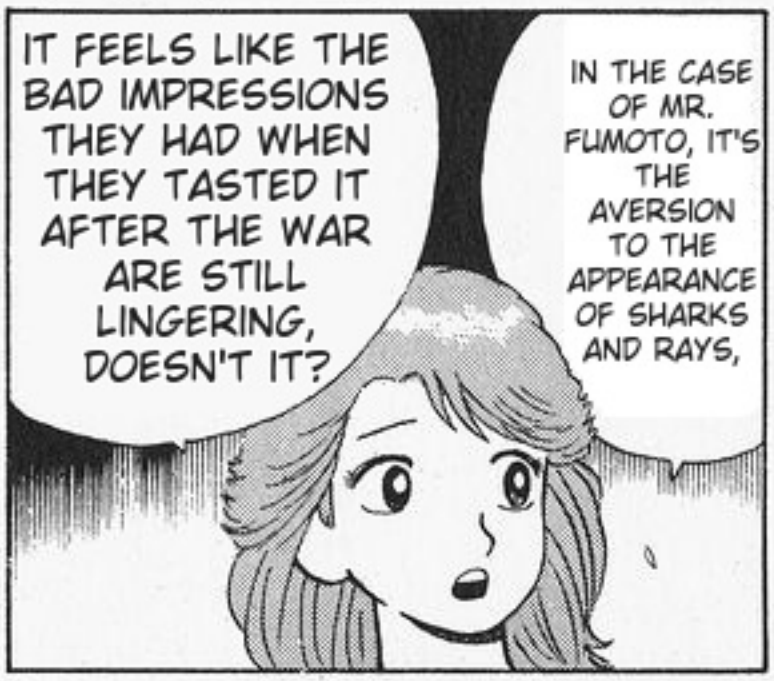
SHARKS AND RAYS, DEPENDING ON HOW YOU COOK THEM, COULD BE IN THE REALM OF THE 'ULTIMATE MENU.'

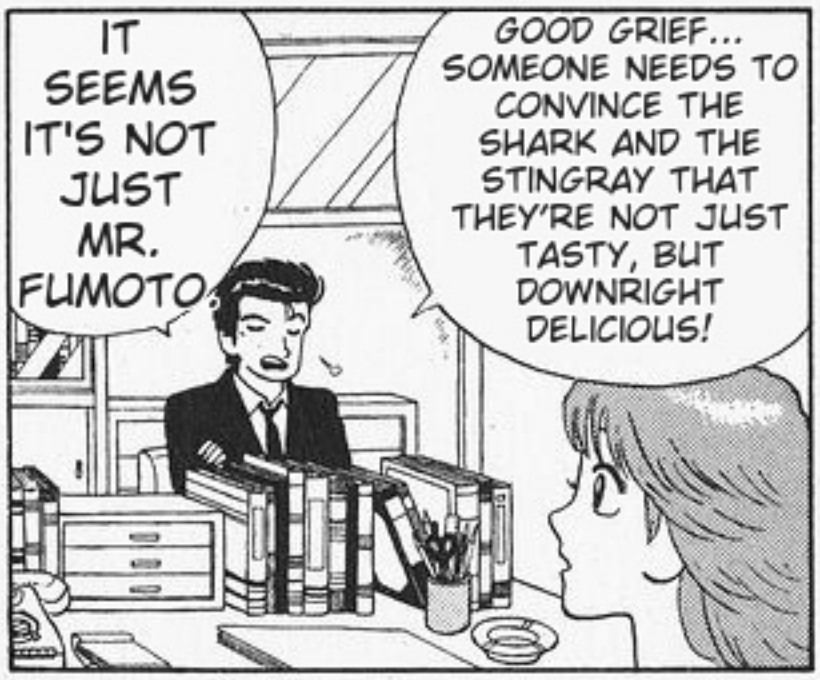
THAT'S JUST A PREJUDICE!

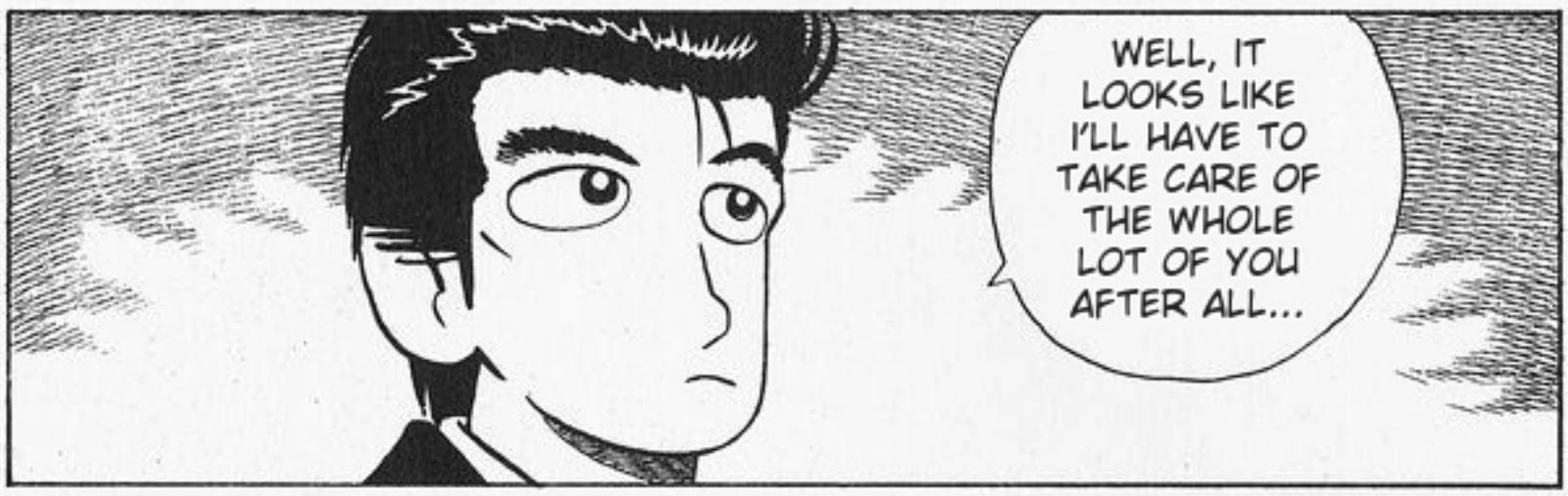
WELL, THAT CERTAINLY LOWERS THE BAR FOR BOTH ULTIMATE AND SUPREME, DOESN'T IT?

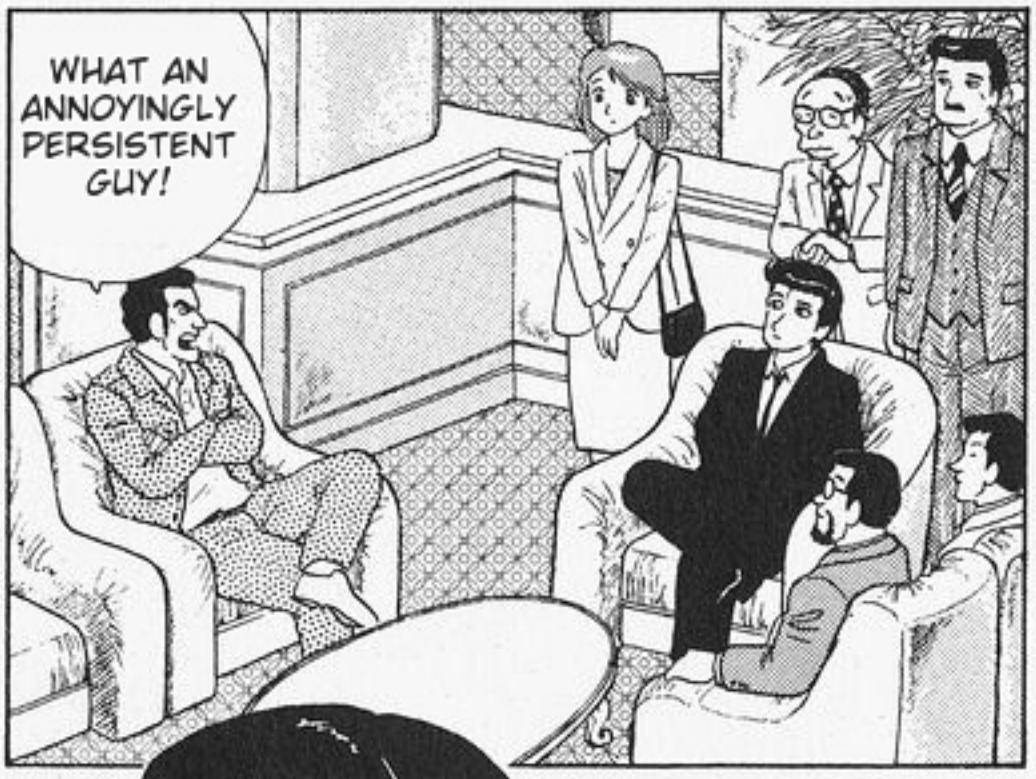
SHARKS AND RAYS, HUH...

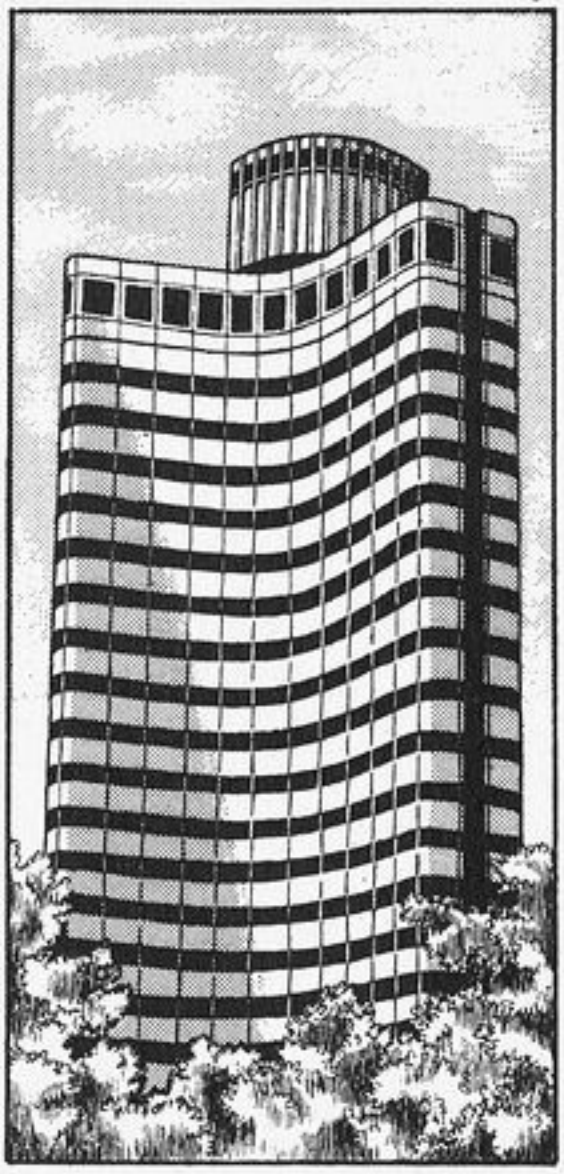
DELICIOUS ADVENTURES 7











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HOW COULD THE FEARLESS MR. **FUMOTO** WHO MUNCHES ON BATS WITHOUT A SECOND THOUGHT, DISLIKE SHARKS AND RAYS?

BUT IT'S STRANGE, ISN'T IT?

HE LOST HIS LIFE TO A SHARK ATTACK...

A DIVER I WAS CLOSE TO,

WELL...

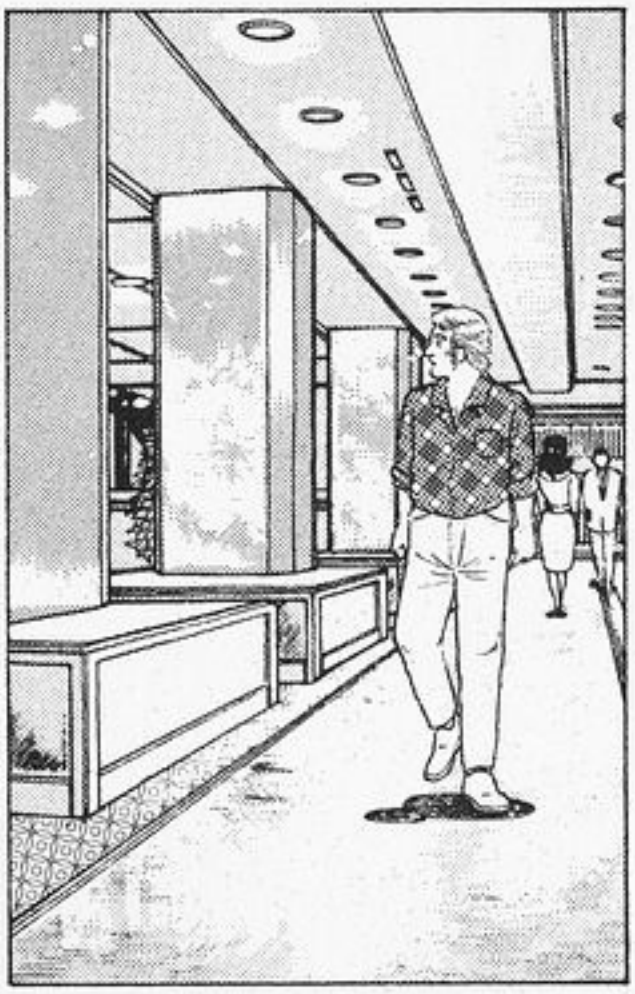
WHAT ABOUT THE SHARK CUISINE EXPERTS FROM AUSTRALIA? WHERE HAVE THEY GONE?!

THAT SHARK JELLY WE HAD THE OTHER DAY WAS DOWNRIGHT AWFUL!!

THE BELLY OF A RAY LOOKS EERILY LIKE A HUMAN FACE, AND THAT JUST CREEPS ME OUT.

WHEN YOU LOOK AT A RAY FROM UNDERNEATH,

DELICIOUSNESS, VOLUME 17!



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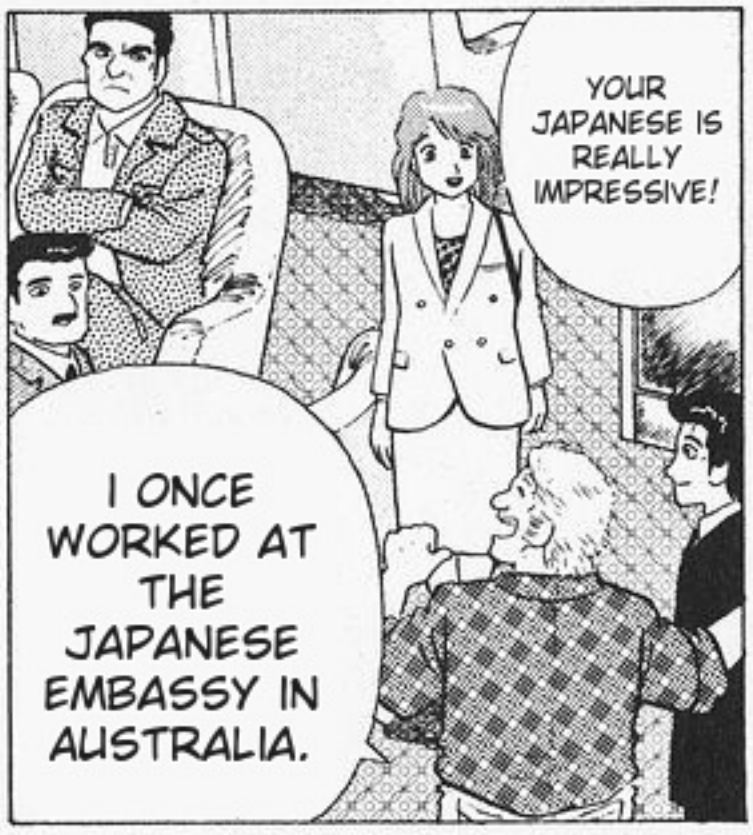

LET'S DIVE RIGHT IN AND FEAST!

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SHIRO HASN'T CHANGED A BIT SINCE THE OLD DAYS!

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OK。

HIROSHIMA?

LET'S MAKE OUR WAY TO HIROSHIMA.

WHERE SHOULD WE HEAD TO?

8

WHY?

HIROSHIMA, YOU SAY?

IS THERE A GOOD SHARK LURKING IN HIROSHIMA?

HIROSHIMA PREFECTURE, HIBA DISTRICT, KUCHIWA TOWN.

WE'VE COME QUITE DEEP INTO THE MOUNTAINS, HAVEN'T WE?

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I THOUGHT IT WAS ALL BY THE SEASIDE...

WEREN'T WE GOING TO GET A SHARK?

9

THERE'S A REASON BEHIND THIS, YOU KNOW.

DO THEY CATCH SHARKS IN THE MOUNTAINS?

UNBELIEVABLE, ISN'T IT!

ゴト ゴト

WHAT IS THIS PLACE, ANYWAY?

IT SAYS 'CROCODILE CUISINE' HERE, DOESN'T IT?

まんさく茶屋

HELLO!

ピンポン

OH, YAMAOKA-SAN, WELCOME!

10

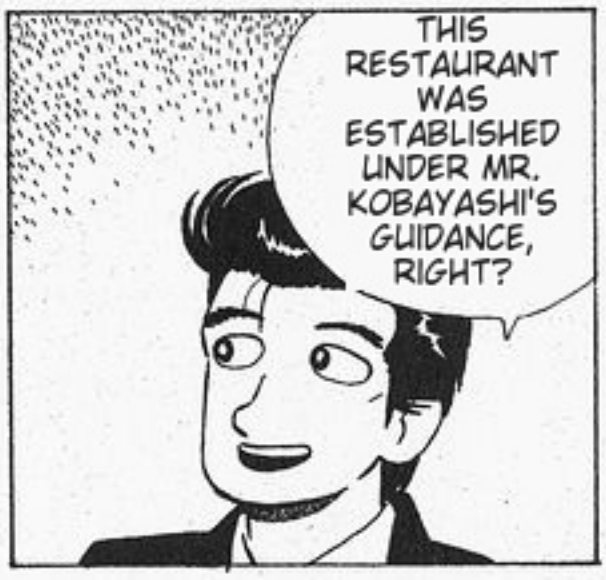
CAN WE REALLY EAT SHARK DISHES IN A PLACE LIKE THIS...?!

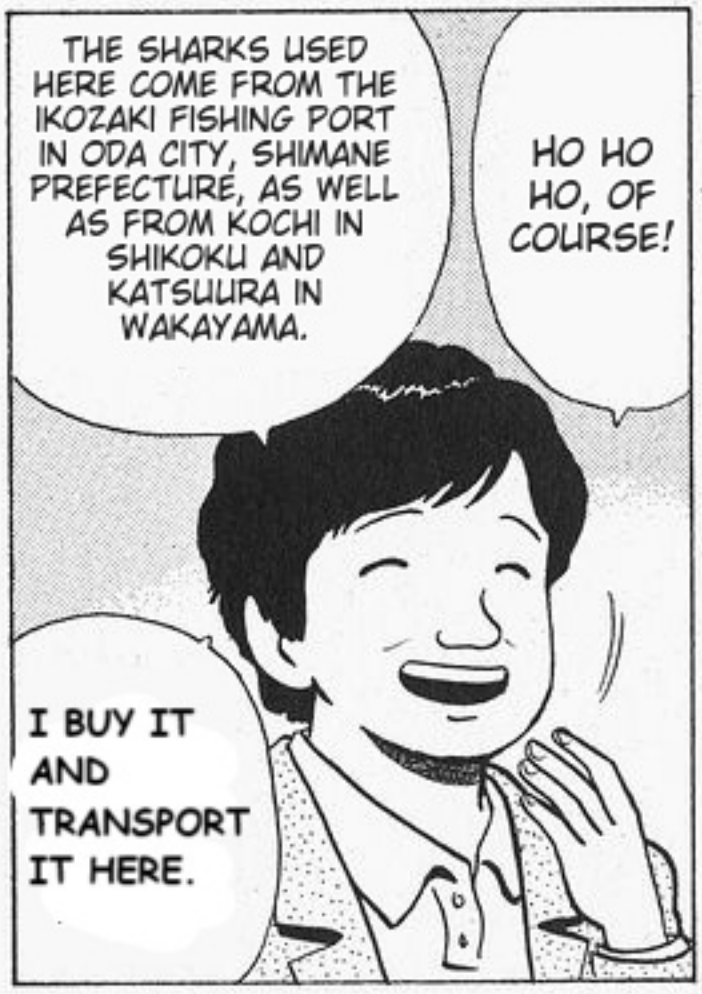
WOW... IT REALLY DOES FEEL LIKE A MOUNTAIN TEAHOUSE!

YES, YES, WE'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU!

I BROUGHT A WHOLE CROWD WITH ME,

DELICIOUSNESS, VOLUME 17!





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NO, SHARKS AREN'T EATEN IN EITHER THE SAN'IN REGION OR SHIKOKU.

OF COURSE! THE FISH TASTES BEST RIGHT WHERE IT'S CAUGHT! THAT FOOL YAMAOKA GOT THE DESTINATION ALL WRONG!

SO THE REAL SHARK CUISINE HOTSPOTS ARE PLACES LIKE OTA CITY AND KOCHI, HUH?

YES, REGIONS IN JAPAN WHERE YOU CAN EAT SHARK AS FRESH FISH INSTEAD OF PROCESSED PRODUCTS ARE PRETTY RARE.

WHAT? THEY DON'T EAT IT AT THE FISHING PORTS WHERE SHARKS ARE CAUGHT, BUT INSTEAD IN THE MIDDLE OF THE MOUNTAINS?

HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT...?

SHARK COMES INTO THOSE FISHING PORTS, BUT THEY DON'T EAT IT.

BUT WE'RE THE PLACE THAT EATS THE MOST OF IT!

WOW... SO YOU ONLY EAT IT IN THE MOUNTAINS AND NOT NEAR THE SEA?

THE MOST ENTHUSIASTIC EATERS ARE ACTUALLY IN THE MOUNTAINOUS AREA OF THIS CHUGOKU REGION, KNOWN AS OKUBINGO.

I'VE HEARD IT'S ALSO EATEN IN SOME PARTS OF KYOTO, SHIGA, AND NAGASAKI,

DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED!

WHILE REGULAR FISH MIGHT ONLY LAST THREE DAYS AT BEST, SHARKS CAN STAY FRESH FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS!

SHARKS HAVE UNDERDEVELOPED URINARY SYSTEMS, WHICH LEADS TO A BUILDUP OF AMMONIA IN THEIR BODIES. THANKS TO THIS, THEY RESIST DECAY LIKE CHAMPIONS!

HOWEVER, SHARKS ARE FISH THAT RESIST DECAY LIKE CHAMPIONS!

BACK IN THE DAY, TRANSPORTATION WAS A MERE WHISPER OF WHAT IT IS NOW, AND WITHOUT REFRIGERATORS, FRESH FISH WAS A TREASURE THAT ELUDED THOSE IN THE MOUNTAINS.

WHY WOULD THAT BE?

IN COASTAL LANDS, THERE ARE COUNTLESS FISH YOU CAN SAVOR FRESH, ASIDE FROM SHARKS; IT'S JUST THAT SHARKS HAVE BEEN A DELICACY ENJOYED ONLY IN THESE MOUNTAINOUS REGIONS.

WELL, HALF A MONTH!

THE LOVE OF SHARKS HERE RUNS DEEP AND STRONG!

THAT'S NOT THE CASE AT ALL! EVEN NOW, WITH ADVANCED DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS, YOU CAN GET FISH CAUGHT FROM THE OCEAN ON THE VERY SAME DAY,

THEN, ISN'T THE SHARK JUST A SUBSTITUTE FOR OTHER FISH?!

WELL THEN, IF THE FOLKS AROUND HERE COULD GET THEIR HANDS ON FRESH FISH, THEY WOULDN'T HAVE TOUCHED SHARK AT ALL!

CROCODILE CUISINE IS A CHERISHED TRADITION IN THIS REGION.

BUT YOU KNOW... IF IT DOESN'T TASTE GOOD...

HMMM...

IN AUSTRALIA, REGARDLESS OF THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, EVEN COASTAL TOWNS FEAST ON SHARK.

ALRIGHT THEN, LET'S GET STARTED.

WELL, LET'S DIVE IN AND GIVE IT A TRY. HERE WE GO!

IT'S A CORAL HUE, ISN'T IT?

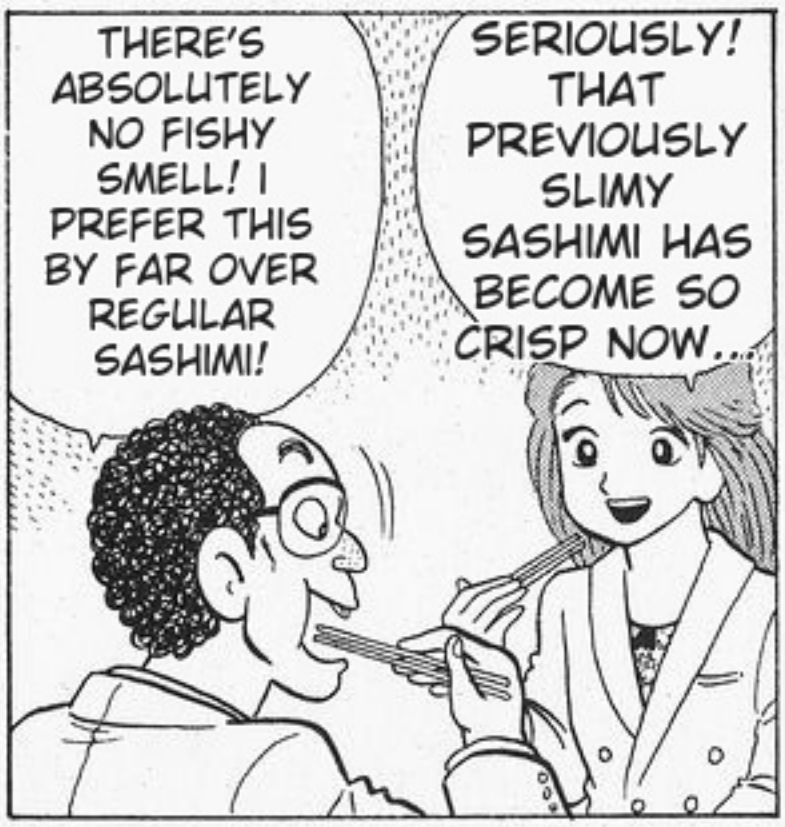
AH... BEHOLD THE SHARK SASHIMI!

PLEASE ENJOY IT WITH SOME GINGER SOY SAUCE.

FIRST UP, THE SASHIMI.

14

DELICIOUS!



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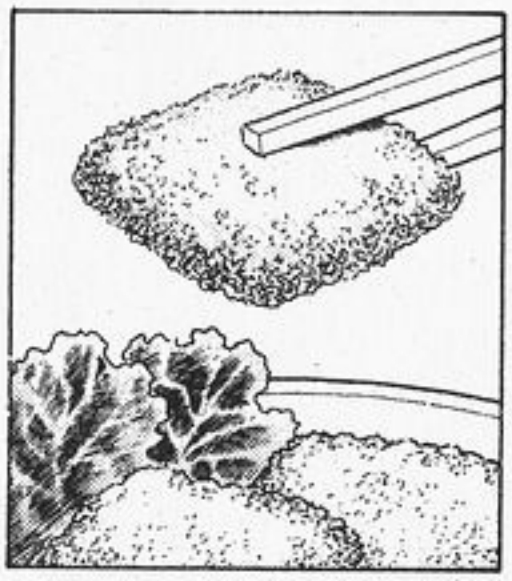
HMM...

IN BRITAIN, THEY HAVE FISH AND CHIPS, WHERE THEY FRY UP WHITE FISH, AND THIS IS JUST THAT!



WHEN THE CROCODILE MEAT WARMS UP AND TURNS WHITE, IT'S JUST RIGHT TO EAT.

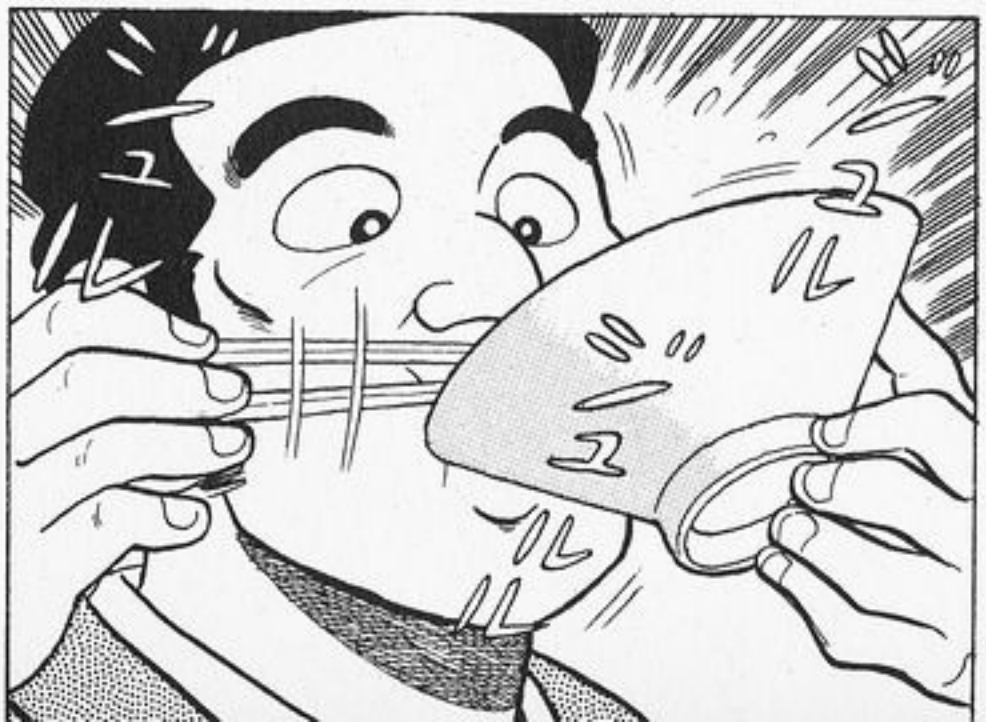
YES, THIS IS 'WANI CHAZUKE.'

IT'S MILD YET BURSTING WITH FLAVOR!

NANBAN-ZUKE IS GREAT TOO!

THIS MUSHROOM HAS A DELIGHTFUL TASTE!

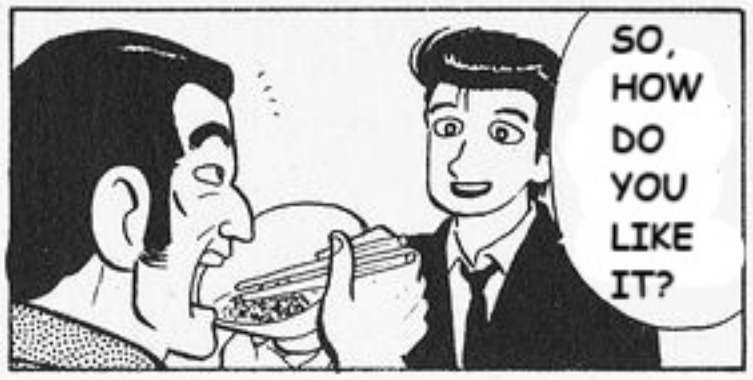
WOW, IT HAS SUCH A REFRESHING FLAVOR!

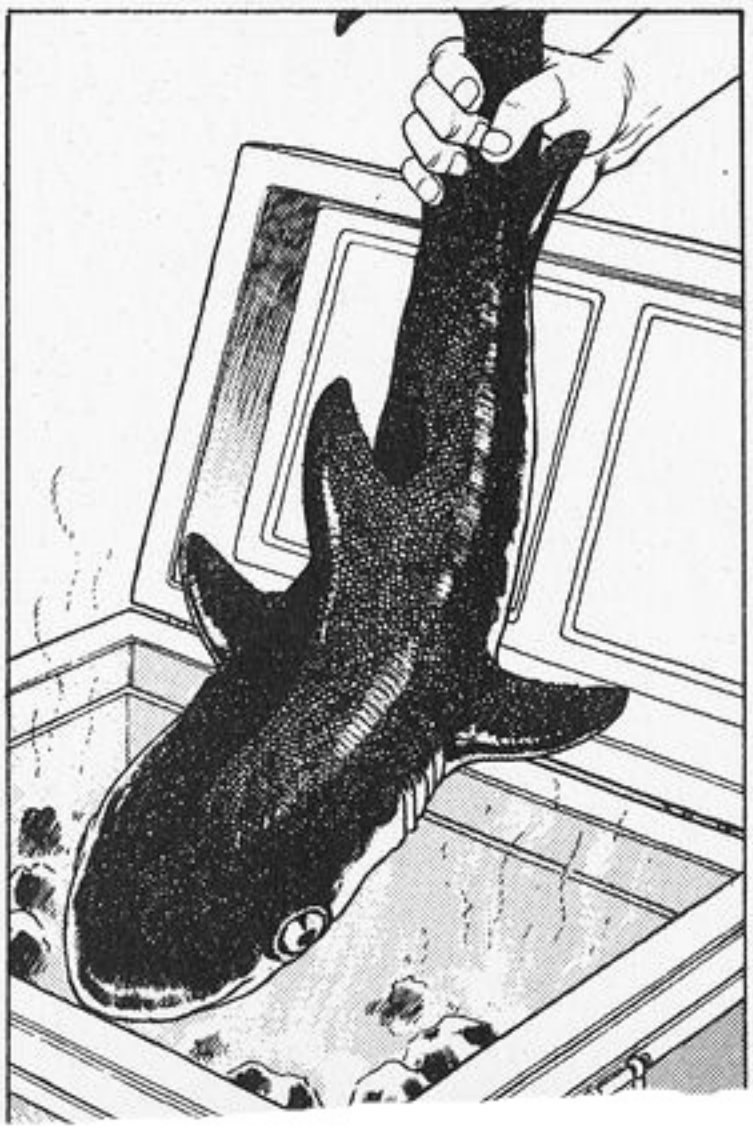


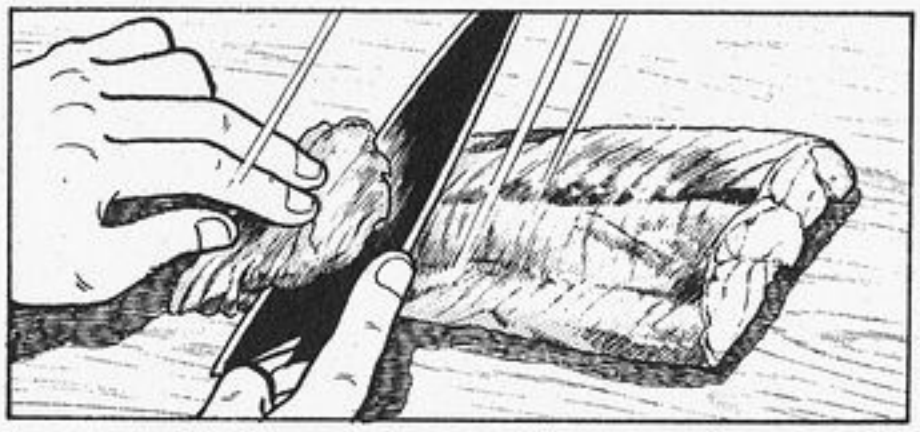
THIS IS A FINELY CHOPPED SALTED MUSHROOM CALLED 'KAORI DAKE.'

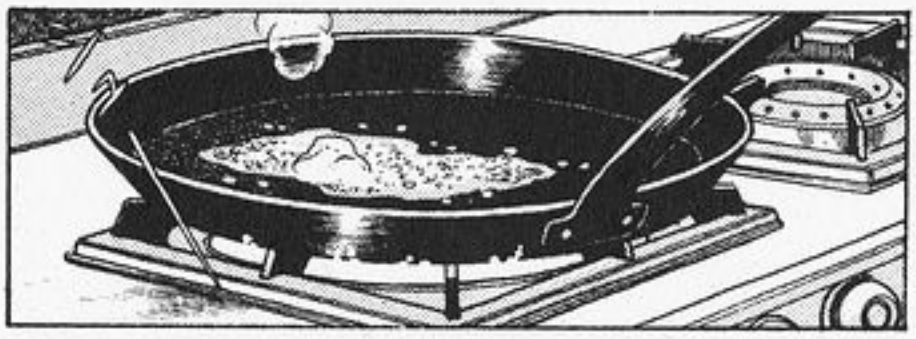
WHAT'S THIS DARK ITEM HERE?

DELICIOUSNESS, VOLUME 17!

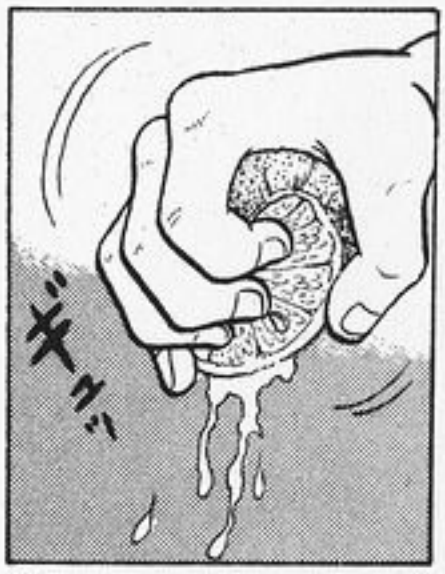








PUMPELMUSALZI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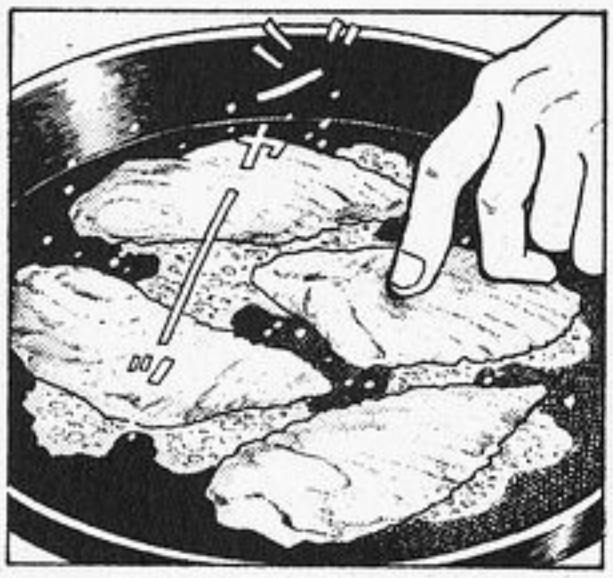

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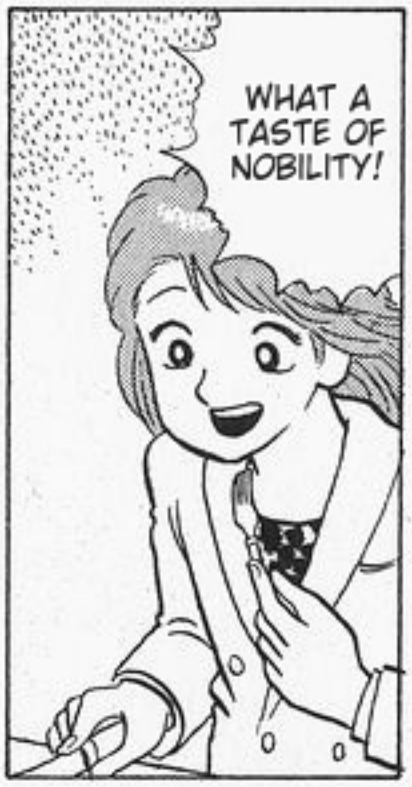
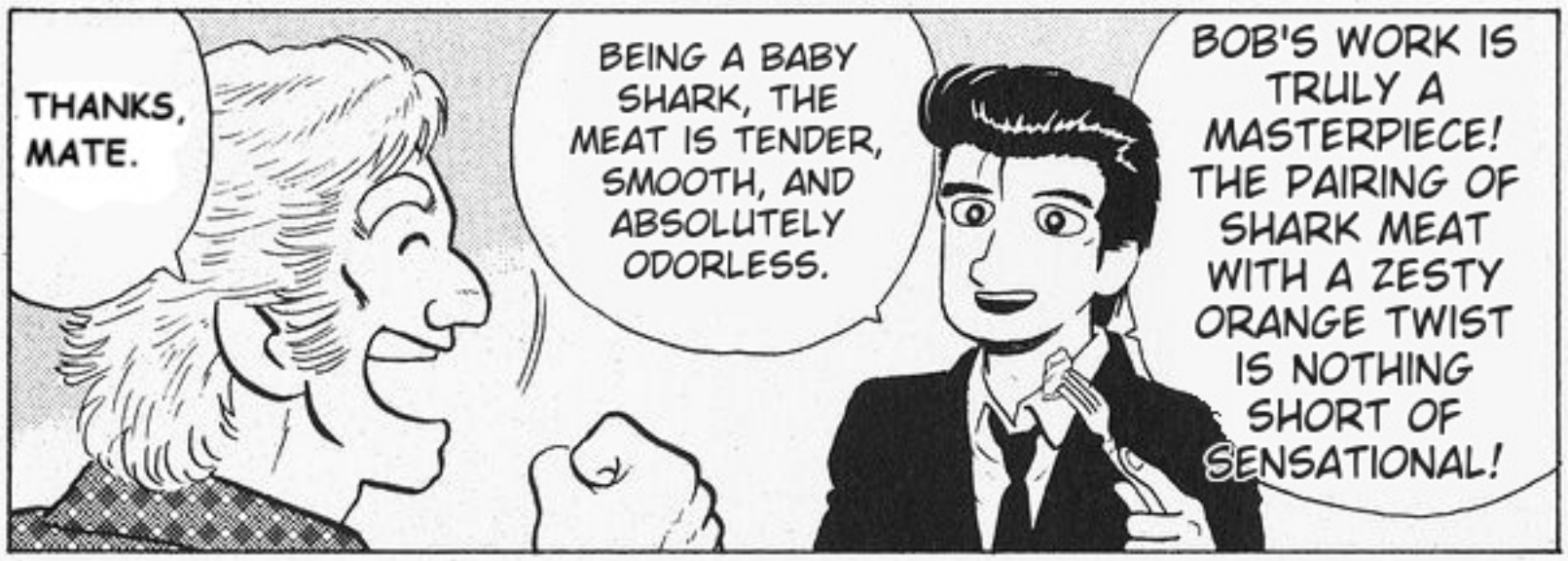
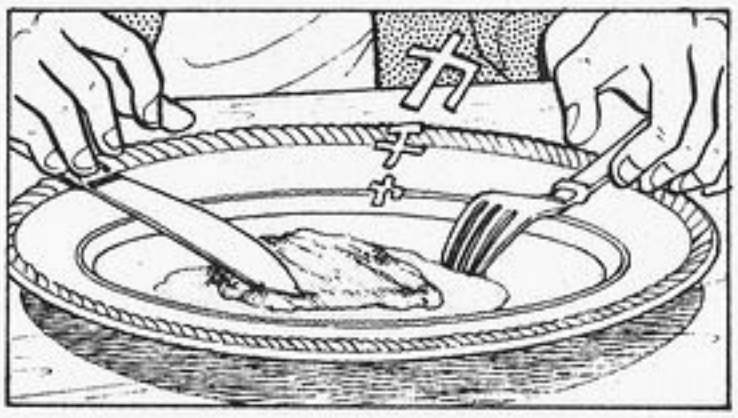
PLEASE, MR. KOBAYASHI, THE LADIES OF THE SHOP INSIST TOO!
ARE YOU GOING TO SWEETEN IT UP BEFORE YOU DIG IN?
ORANGE SAUCE, YOU SAY?!

HERE IT COMES, SAUTÉED BABY SHARK WITH ORANGE SAUCE!

DELICIOUSNESS, VOLUME 17!







19

LEAVE IT TO ME!

IF YOU CAN'T MAKE ME THINK IT'S DELICIOUS, THEN YOU CAN'T CALL IT A WIN!!

HOLD ON!!

WHAT'S GOING ON?

JUST WAIT A SECOND...

ARE YOU REALLY SUGGESTING WE USE RAY AS THE INGREDIENT TO PIT YAMAOKA AGAINST KAIBARA YUZAN?!

20

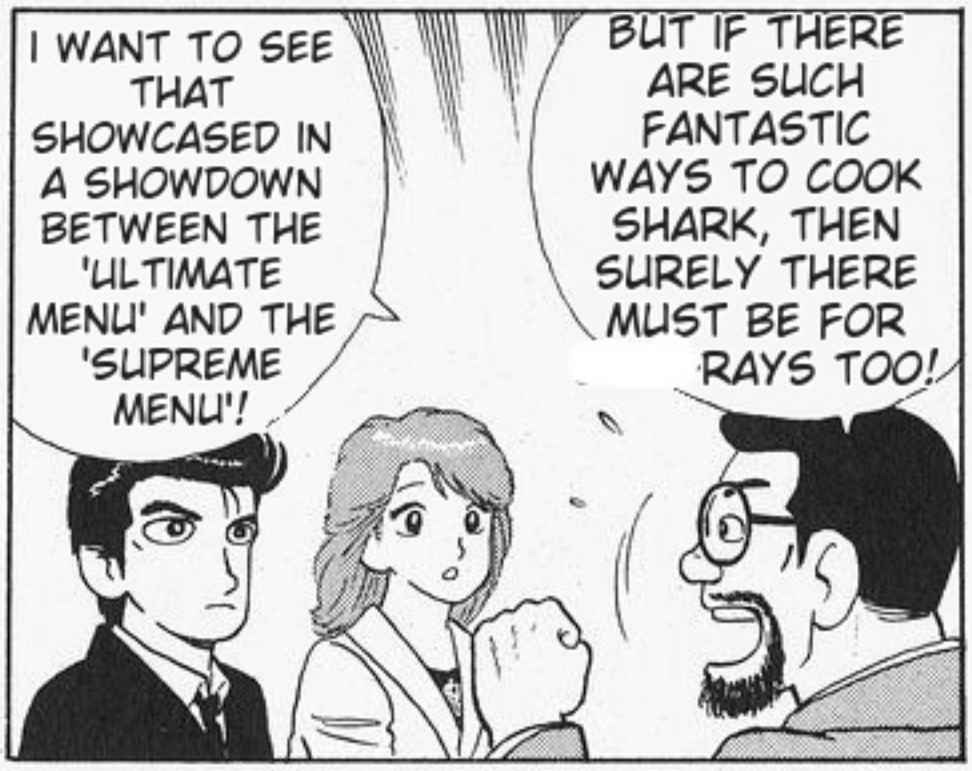
RAY, LIKE THE SHARK, IS ALSO AN UNFAMILIAR FISH TO THE JAPANESE PALATE...

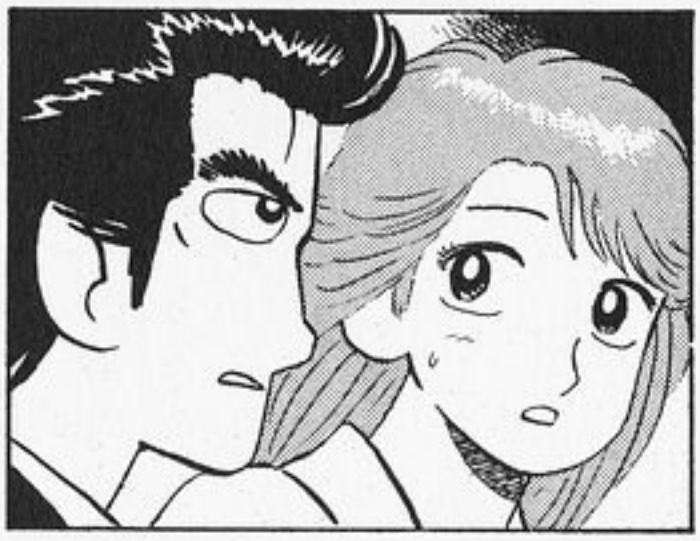
THIS TIME, I WANT TO SEE A SIMILAR JUXTAPOSITION WITH RAY IN THE 'ULTIMATE MENU' VERSUS THE 'SUPREME MENU'.

THE CONTRAST BETWEEN BOB NOW AND THE LADIES' COOKING IN THIS ESTABLISHMENT WAS ABSOLUTELY FASCINATING.

WHAT? NO!!!

DELICIOUSNESS, VOLUME 17!





美食倶楽部

WHAT?! RAY CUISINE, YOU SAY...?!

I'LL SHOW YOU A RAY DISH THAT BELONGS ON THE 'SUPREME MENU'!!!!
VERY WELL!

第2話

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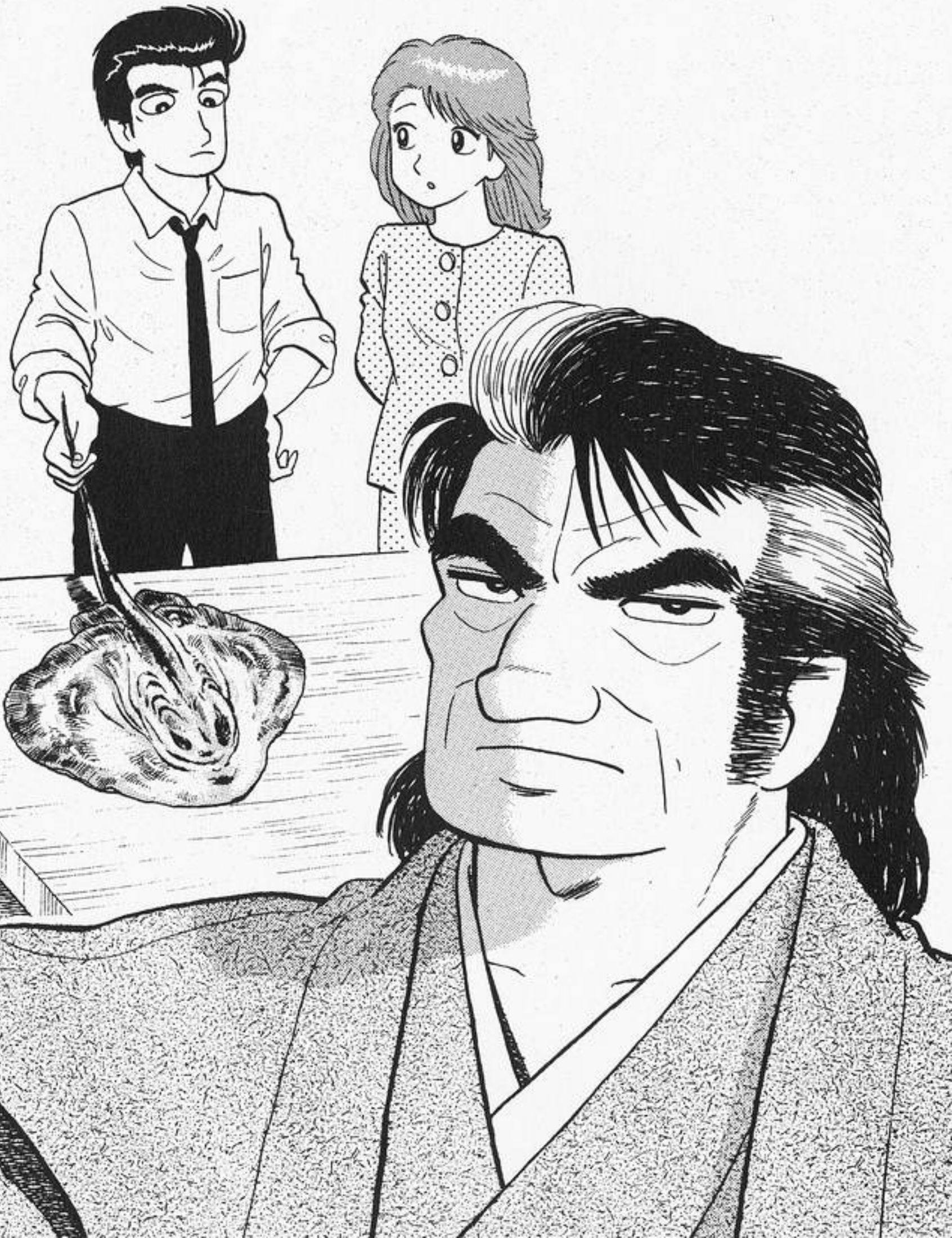


OH REALLY... SO THIS TIME IT'S RAY CUISINE, HUH?

IT SEEMS LIKE SHIRO STARTED THIS WHOLE VENTURE TO CONVINCE THAT GUY OTHERWISE.

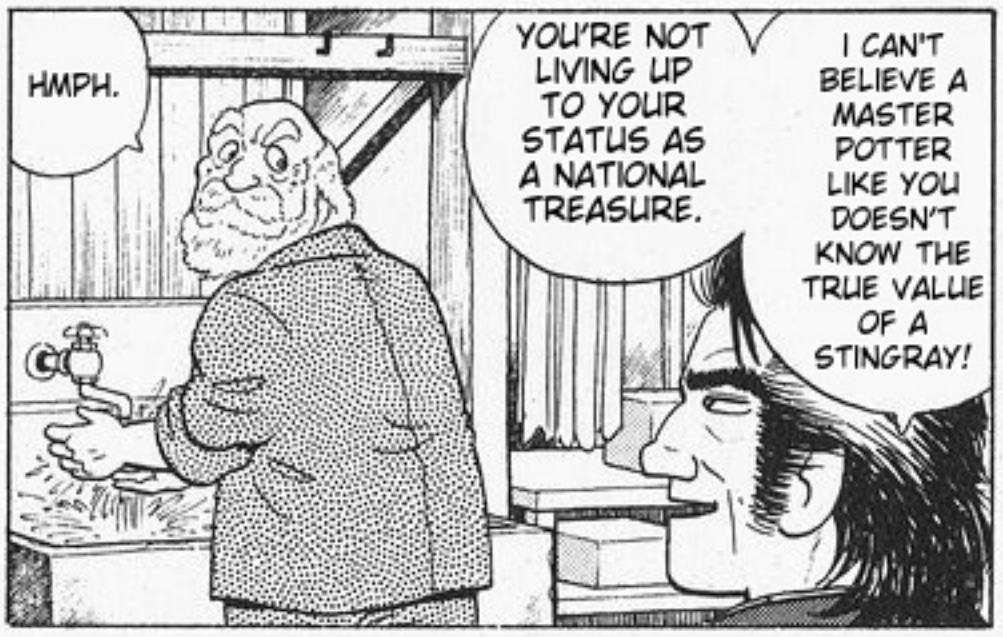
APPARENTLY, THERE'S A GUY WHO INSISTS THAT RAYS AND SHARKS ARE INEDIBLE,

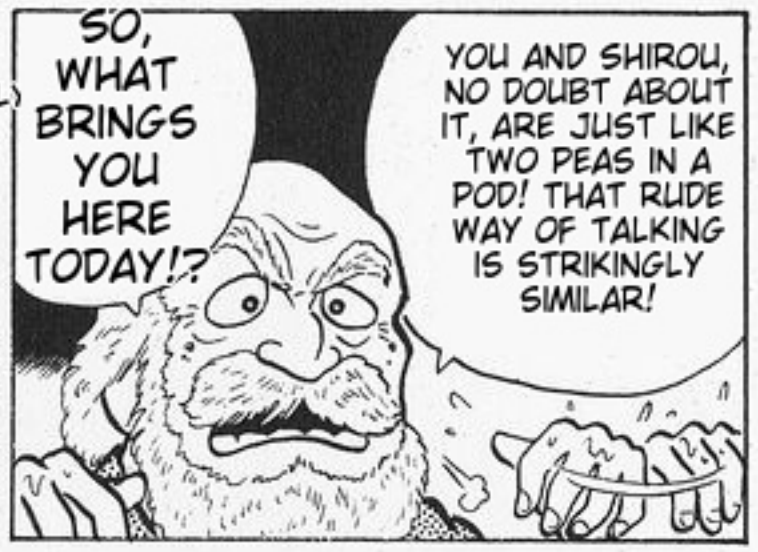
2

AND WE'RE TASKED WITH CRAFTING DISHES WORTHY OF THE TITLES 'SUPREME MENU' AND 'ULTIMATE MENU' USING RAY AS OUR KEY INGREDIENT.

SO, THE WEEKLY TIME WANTS TO KNOW IF SHIRO CAN WHIP UP A RAY DISH THAT'S EVEN BETTER THAN THAT.

DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED 7.





OH, THIS IS SPLENDID...

THOSE PIECES ARE MY TREASURES, EACH ONE A FAVORITE OF MINE!

OH! HOLD ON, YUZAN! THAT'S NOT RIGHT!!

THIS IS JUST PERFECT FOR SERVING THE EEL DISH I'VE ENVISIONED.

IGA RYOKUYU HIRABACHI WITH A BEAUTIFUL GLAZE.

I'VE ALREADY SENT EVERYTHING NOTEWORTHY OVER THERE.

HOWEVER, I'M AFRAID THAT TO PARTICIPATE IN MY POTTERY EXHIBITION NEXT MONTH IN NEW YORK, I...

4

代用…

SO, WELL... I THOUGHT I MIGHT USE ONE OF YOUR PLATES AS A STAND-IN FOR MY WORK...

WHAT'S THIS? YUZAN, YOU'RE A POTTER TOO, WHY NOT USE YOUR OWN PLATES?

OF COURSE, UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES, I WOULDN'T USE SOMEONE ELSE'S WORK.

DELICIOUSNESS OVERLOAD!!!

OVERALL, IT EXUDES ELEGANCE, YET JUST A HINT OF THE RAY'S WILD ESSENCE SPARKLES THROUGH,

THIS RICH GREEN GLAZE MAKES THE WHITE OF THE RAY'S FLESH TRULY POP, DOESN'T IT?

ADDING LAYERS OF FLAVOR THAT ARE SIMPLY DIVINE...

YOU ARE HEREBY EXPELLED! GET OUT!!

HOW DARE YOU COMPARE MY MASTER'S CREATION TO MERE SUBSTITUTES!!

AWAKENING PLEASURES WITHIN US THAT WE NEVER EVEN KNEW EXISTED... OH...

AS I TAKE A TENDER, GLOSSY PIECE OF RAY INTO MY MOUTH,

YES, INDEED! I SHALL PRESENT YOU WITH THE FINEST RAY DISH!

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BUT I BETTER GET SOME!!!

F-FINE! TAKE IT THEN!!

I'M SO UNFORTUNATE TO HAVE SUCH A DISCIPLE...

THAT GUY, YUZAN, IS JUST THE WORST!

OH MY! DID HE REALLY TAKE AWAY YOUR PLATE?!

WHAT THE?! WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?!

EXCUSE THE INTRUSION!

HEY THERE!

OH MY, IT'S YAMAOKA-SAN AND YUKO-SAN!

I KNOW THIS HOUSE INSIDE AND OUT, YOU KNOW!

HEHEHE,

6

GIVE ME THAT!!!

HUH.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?!

SHIRO!

IT'S ONE OF MY ABSOLUTE FAVORITES?!

THIS BEAUTY IS MY ORIBE SQUARE BOWL!

WHAT? DID YOU ACTUALLY SELL THAT?

BUT WAIT A MINUTE, WHERE'S MY IGA GREEN-GLAZED FLAT BOWL GONE?

YOU THIEF! YOU'VE TAKEN MY TREASURE!

TIME TO WHIP UP SOME STINGRAY DELICACIES, JUST NEED TO GRAB A FEW THINGS FROM THE PANTRY!

SHUT IT! JUST HURRY UP AND LEAVE ALREADY!

I'LL SERVE YOU A DELICIOUS STINGRAY FEAST, JUST YOU WAIT!!

IT'S...

I DIDN'T SELL IT, YOU KNOW! THAT BOWL IS...

7

?

UGH... SO FRUSTRATING.

EVEN IF THEY CLASH ON THE OUTSIDE, SOMEWHERE DEEP DOWN, THEY'RE CONNECTED...

LOOK AT THOSE TWO, THEY'VE BOTH CHOSEN THE SAME GREEN-GLAZED PLATES...

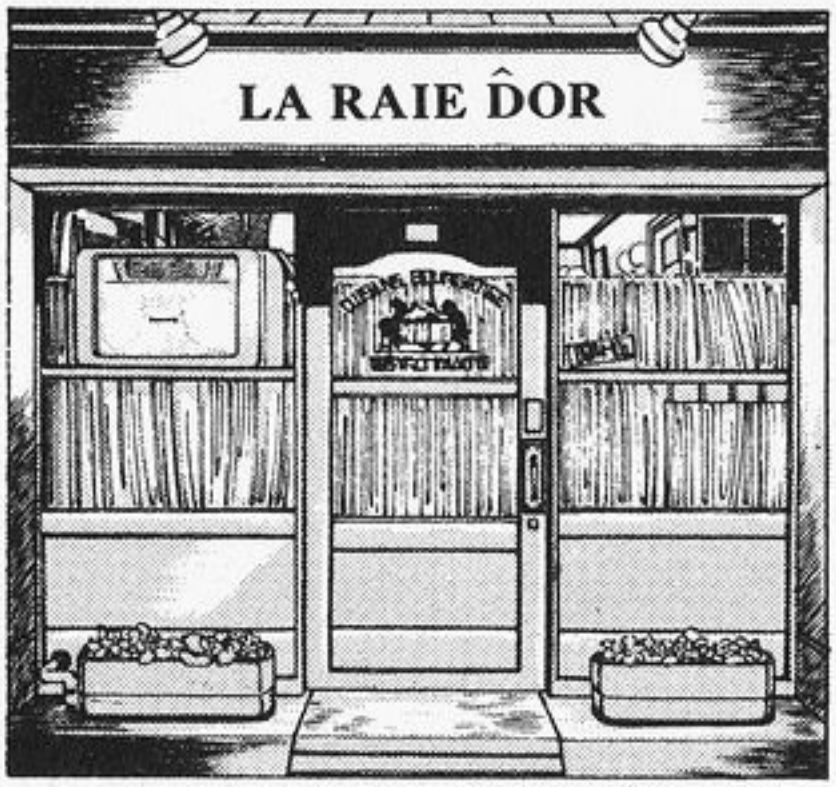
BLOOD TIES BETWEEN PARENT AND CHILD ARE UNBREAKABLE...

8

BUT DEPENDING ON THE COOKING METHOD, WHAT'S HIDDEN BENEATH THE SURFACE CAN TURN INTO SOMETHING DELICIOUS BEYOND IMAGINATION.

AND DEPENDING ON HOW IT'S PREPARED, IT CAN HAVE QUITE AN UNPLEASANT SMELL.

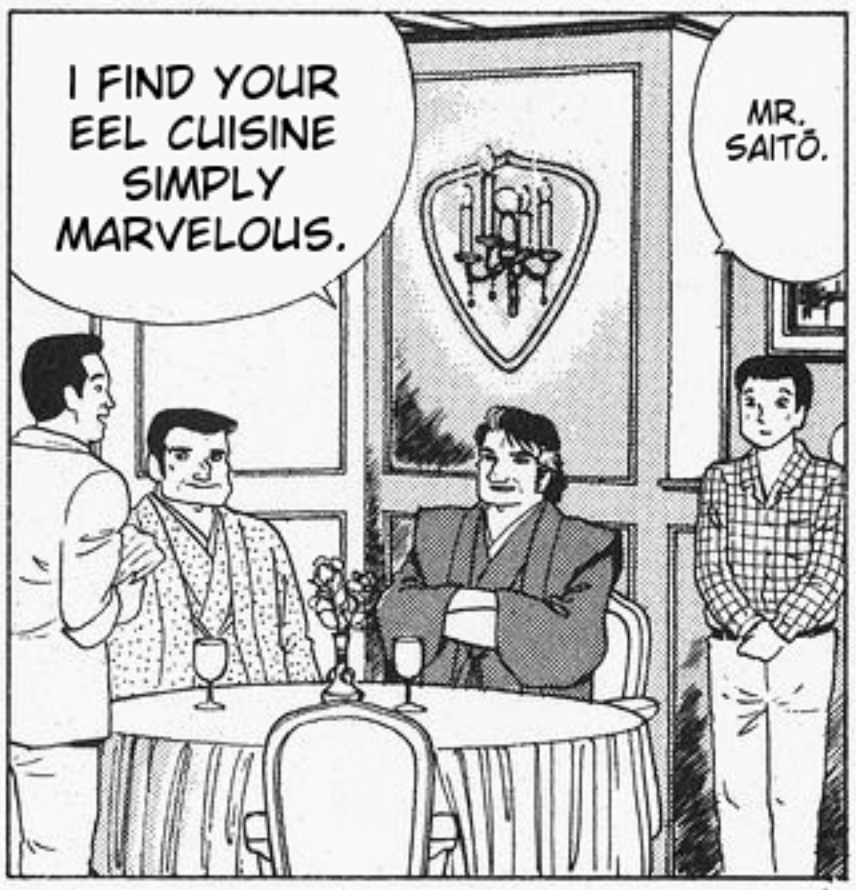
THE STINGRAY, IT'S A SIGHT TO BEHOLD, BUT NOT IN A PRETTY WAY.


LA RAIE ÔDOR

SIGH...

IT SEEMS TO BLEND WONDERFULLY WITH THE TECHNIQUES OF FRENCH COOKING.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
I ONCE THOUGHT OF FRENCH CUISINE AS TRIVIAL, BUT YOUR EXQUISITE EEL DISHES HAVE OPENED MY EYES TO ITS TRUE DEPTH.


I FIND YOUR EEL CUISINE SIMPLY MARVELOUS.
MR. SAITŌ.

I'M NOT ASKING FOR A FREE LESSON, MIND YOU...

COULD YOU TEACH THAT STYLE TO OUR CHEF, RYŌZŌ OKABOSHI?
SO, I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK:

BOLD AND FREE-SPIRITED, FLAWLESSLY UNRESTRAINED, YET WITH AN UNWAVERING PRECISION IN ITS FORM!

A HANDCRAFTED BOWL BY THE MASTER CERAMIST, **TOYAMA TŌJIN**, FEATURING EXQUISITE IGA GREEN GLAZE.

OH WOW, THIS IS...!

I'M IN! PLEASE, LET ME DO THIS!

HOW ABOUT IT? ARE YOU READY TO WRESTLE WITH THIS PLATE?

THIS IS SIMPLY INCREDIBLE!

10

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR HELP!

EXCELLENT! WITH THE ESTEEMED ENDORSEMENT OF CHEF **KAIBARA**, HOW COULD I REFUSE?

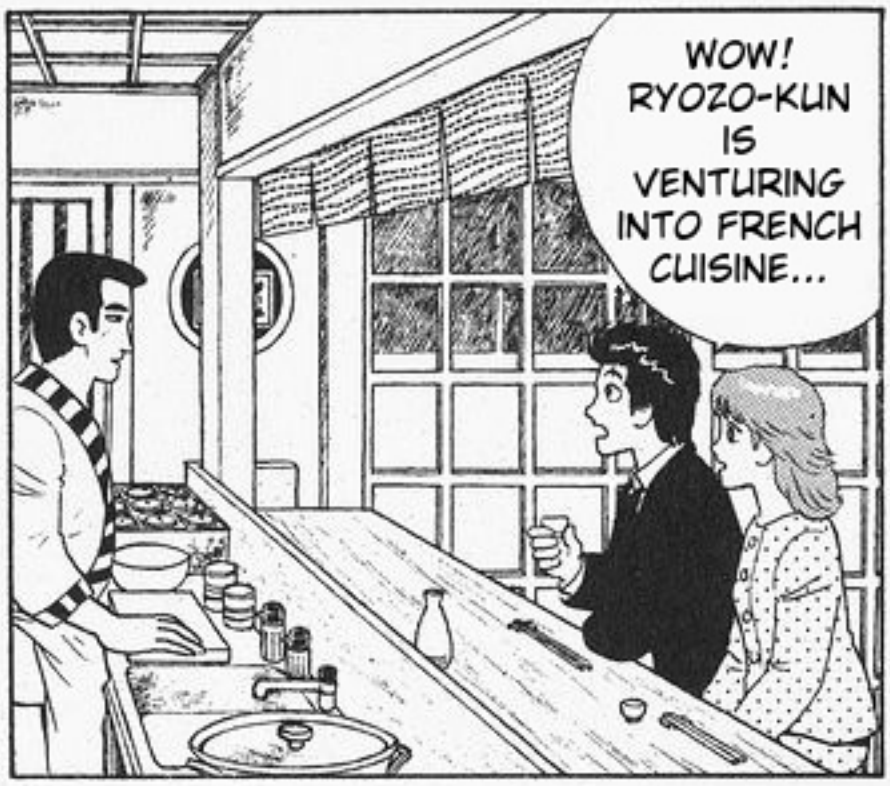
NOT MUCH AT ALL, REALLY.

WHAT'S YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH FRENCH CUISINE?

I CAN VOUCH FOR THIS MAN'S INCREDIBLE TALENT.

I WOULD LOVE FOR THIS MAN TO EXPERIENCE THE WONDERS OF FRENCH CUISINE FIRSTHAND!

DELICIOUS!


WOW! RYOZO-KUN IS VENTURING INTO FRENCH CUISINE...

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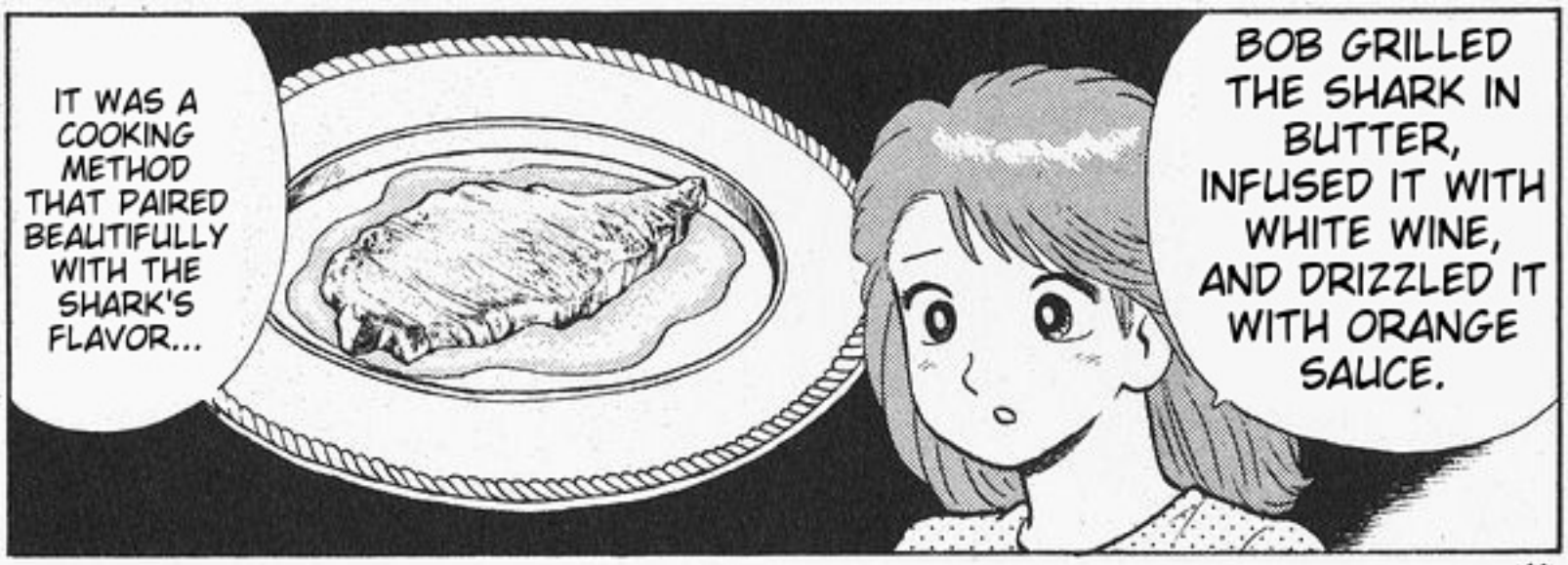
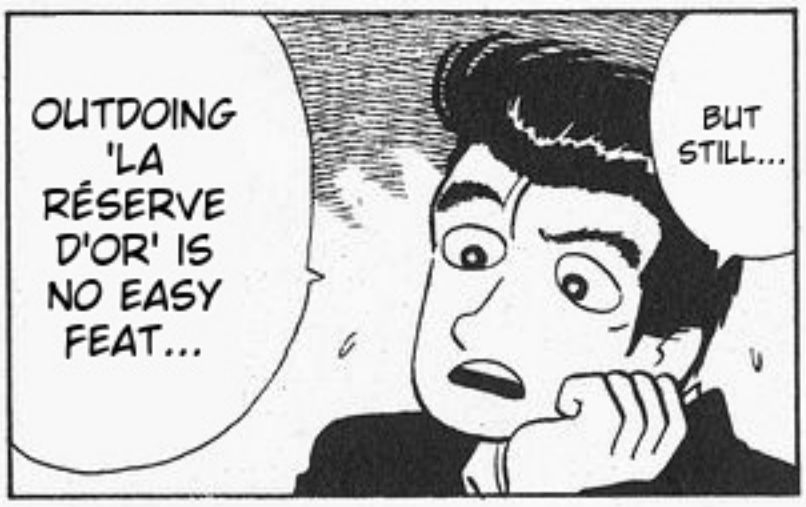

IT WAS A COOKING METHOD THAT PAIRED BEAUTIFULLY WITH THE SHARK'S FLAVOR...
BOB GRILLED THE SHARK IN BUTTER, INFUSED IT WITH WHITE WINE, AND DRIZZLED IT WITH ORANGE SAUCE.


OUTDOING 'LA RÉSERVE D'OR' IS NO EASY FEAT...
BUT STILL...

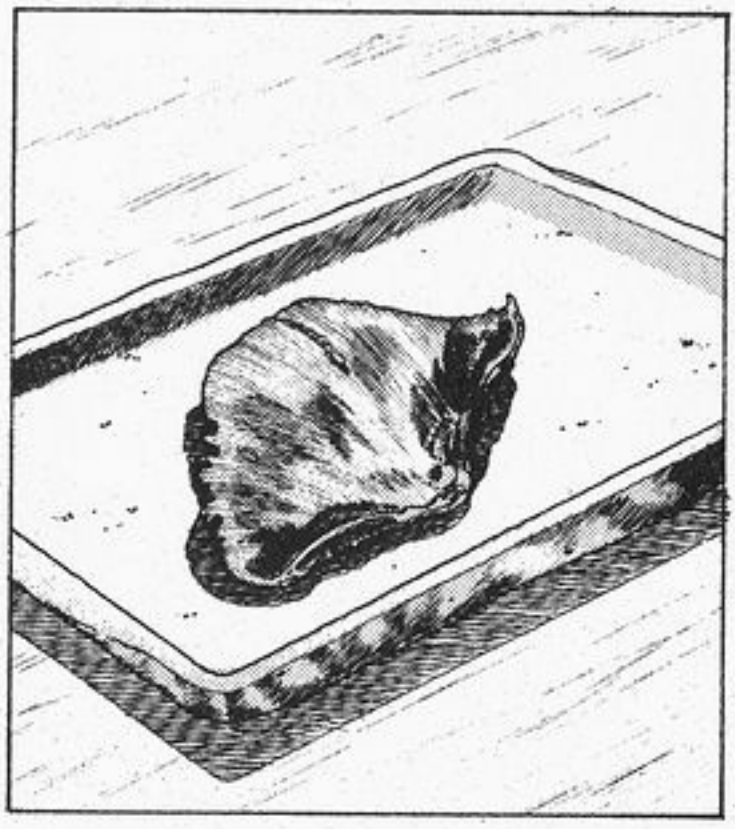
YEAH... I EVEN TRIED STEAMING IT CHINESE-STYLE...
SHARK CAN BE QUITE THE TRICKY FISH ON ITS OWN, DON'T YOU THINK A WESTERN TWIST WOULD SUIT IT BETTER?
BUT IT ENDED UP FEELING A BIT TOO FANCY, YOU KNOW...

WELL THEN, DIG IN!

WHAT'S THIS?

IT'S THE IDEAL SNACK TO PAIR WITH A DRINK.

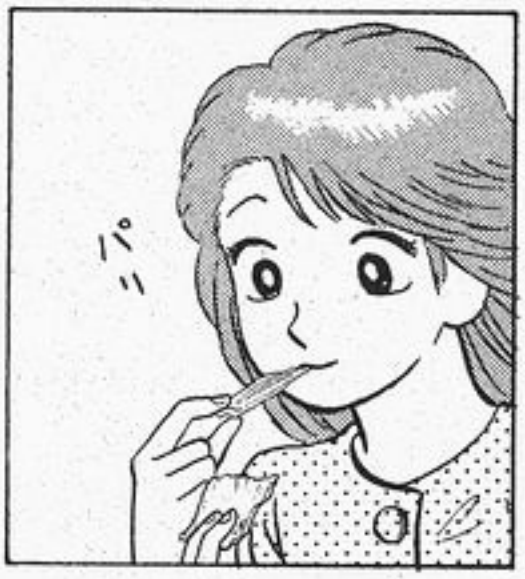
I GRILLED SOME DRIED STINGRAY FINS.



IT'S DEFINITELY ONE-OF-A-KIND.

THE CRUNCHY TEXTURE IS JUST PERFECT.

WOW, IT'S SO AROMATIC!



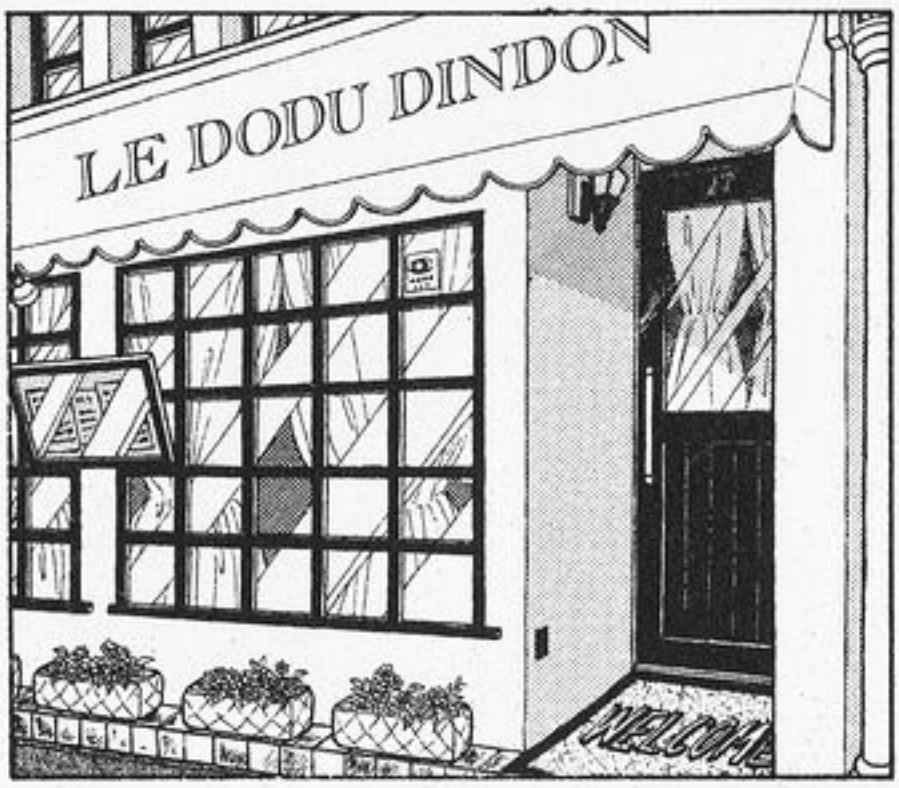
12

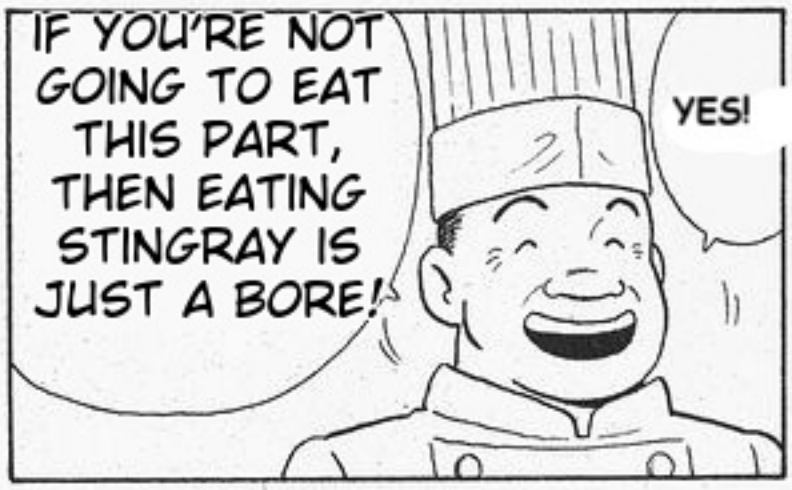
I COMPLETELY FORGOT ABOUT THIS!!

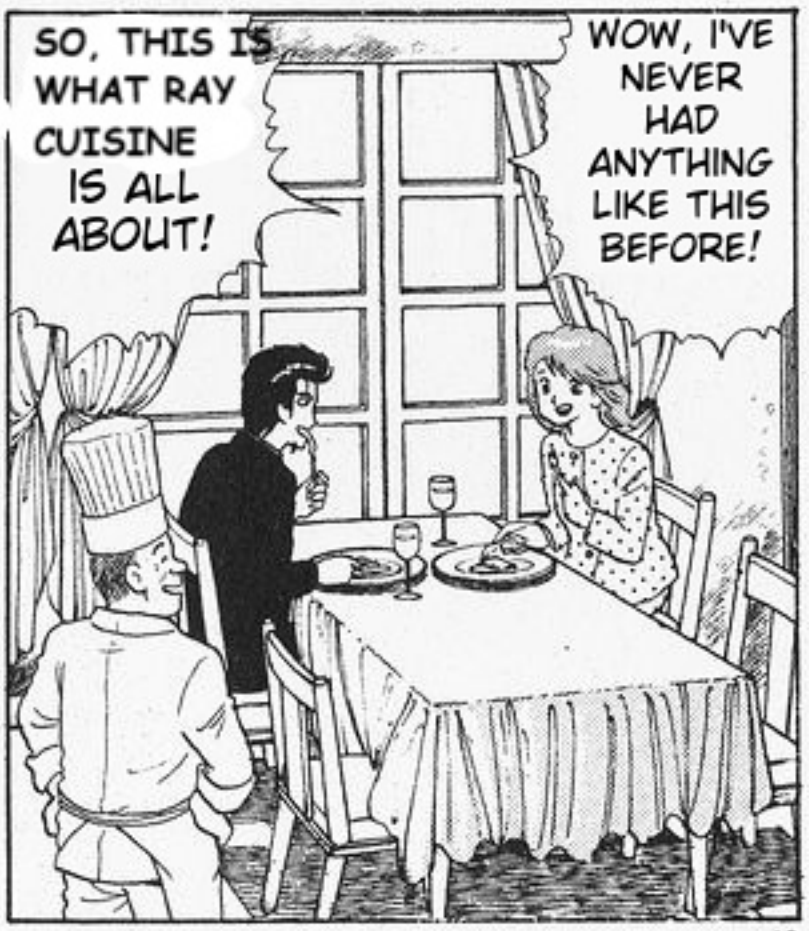
HUH?

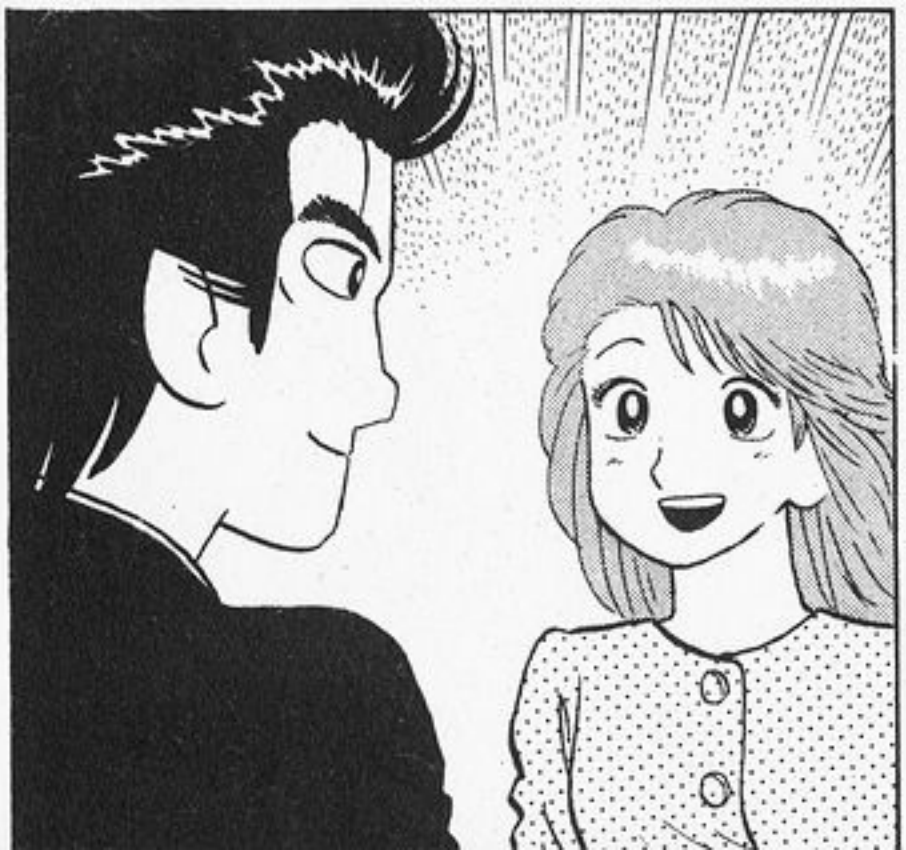
THIS IS IT...

DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED 17









ALRIGHT, FIRST UP IS KAIBARA YUZAN FOR THE TEITO NEWS' 'SUPREME MENU'.

14

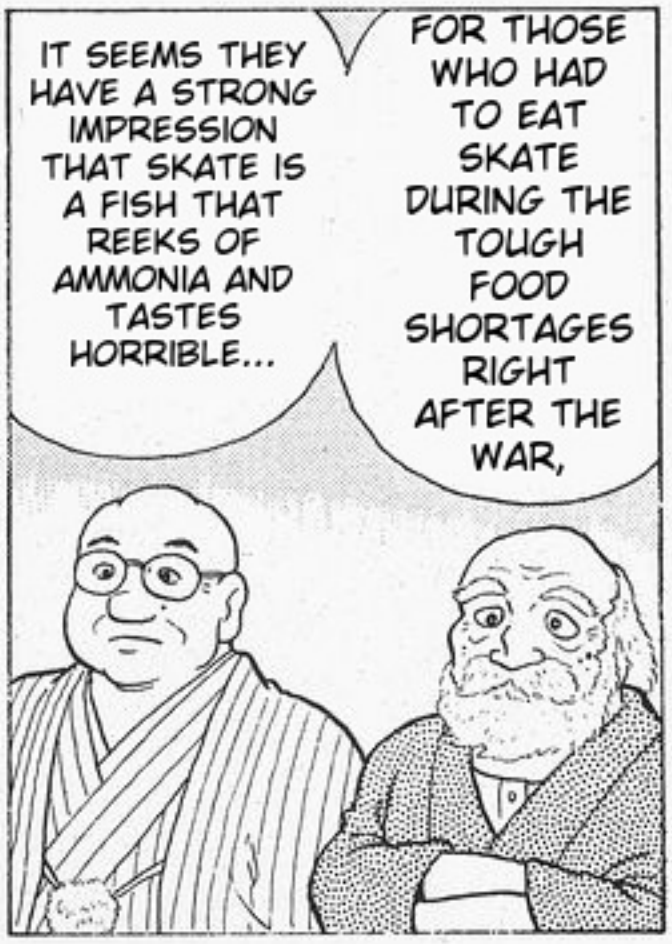
I DECIDED THAT THIS COULD BE THE STAR INGREDIENT OF THE 'SUPREME MENU.'

I AGREED TO USE RAY AS AN INGREDIENT BECAUSE...

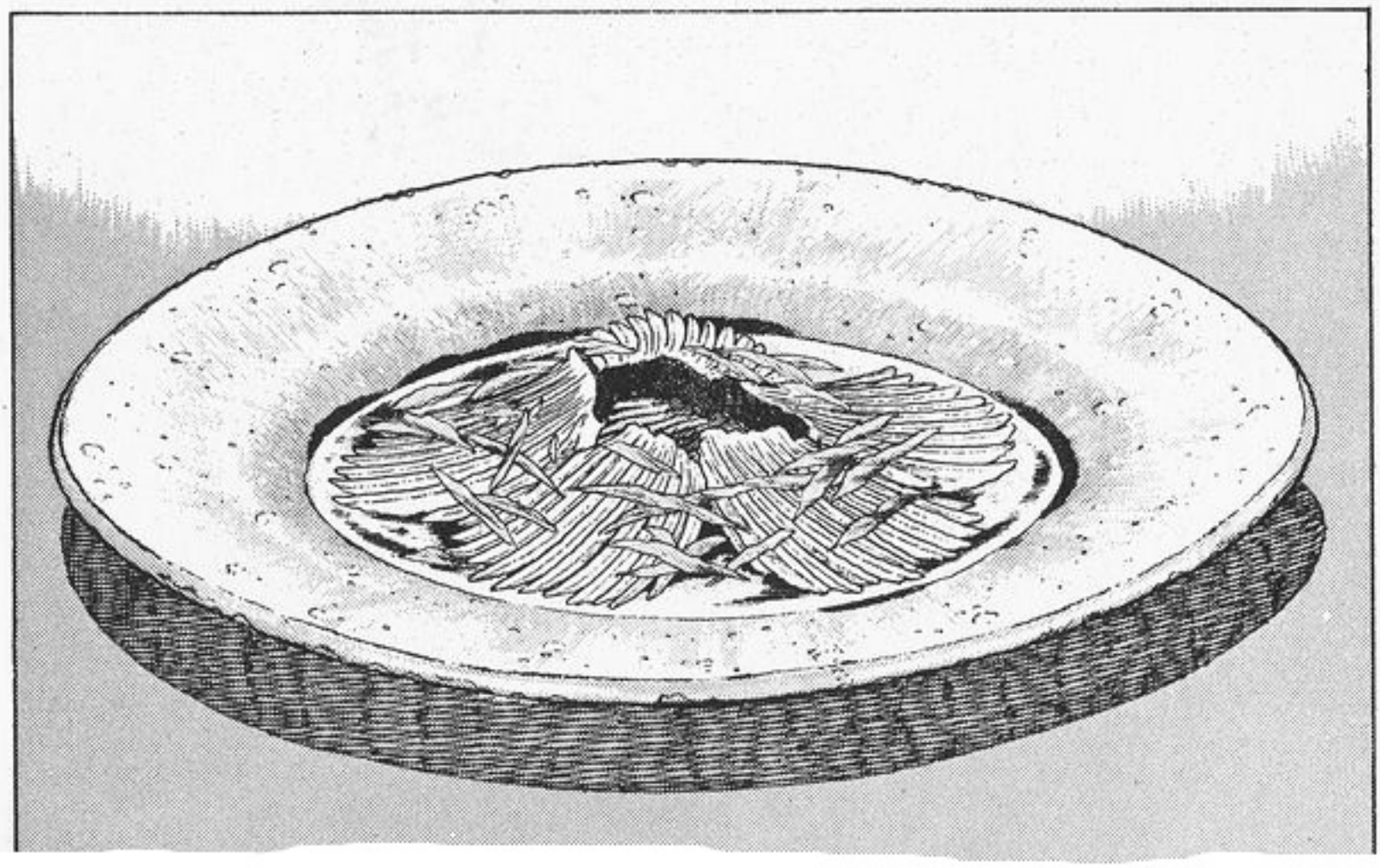
DELICIOUS!

IF YOU SKILLFULLY PREPARE FRESHLY CAUGHT SKATE, THERE'S NO WAY IT WILL SMELL OF AMMONIA.

BUT IT'S CAPABLE OF BECOMING ONE OF THE FINEST FISH DISHES!
ON THE CONTRARY, IF YOU FULLY UNLOCK THE WONDERS OF ITS TEXTURE,


IT SEEMS THEY HAVE A STRONG IMPRESSION THAT SKATE IS A FISH THAT REEKS OF AMMONIA AND TASTES HORRIBLE...
FOR THOSE WHO HAD TO EAT SKATE DURING THE TOUGH FOOD SHORTAGES RIGHT AFTER THE WAR,

TODAY, LET'S PUT THAT TO THE TEST!



BUT THE CONTRAST BETWEEN THE DEEP GREEN GLAZE AND THE STINGRAY'S PRISTINE WHITE IS SIMPLY STUNNING!

WOW! ENJOYING STINGRAY ON A PLATE BY MR. TOJIN IS SUCH A LUXURY!

CHEF KAIBARA, WHAT'S THAT EXQUISITE PLATE?

THIS PLATE IS MY CREATION, YOU KNOW.

HOW REFINED IT IS...

OH, INDEED!

THE TEXTURE IS SIMPLY IRRESISTIBLE, LIKE A DELICATE HANABIRA MOCHI.

IT'S SUBTLE, YET THE RICH UMAMI OF THE STINGRAY LINGERS ON THE PALATE...

AND WHILE THE FLESH IS SOFT, IT STILL HAS THAT DELIGHTFUL CRUNCH!

16

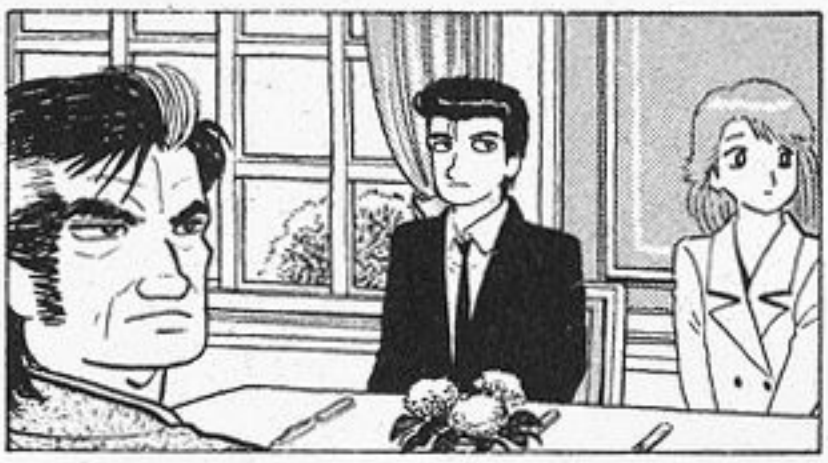
I'LL SHRED THAT TENDER WHITE FLESH AND TOSS IT WITH A WARM DRESSING MADE FROM SHERRY VINEGAR, MELTED BUTTER, PEPPER, AND SALT.

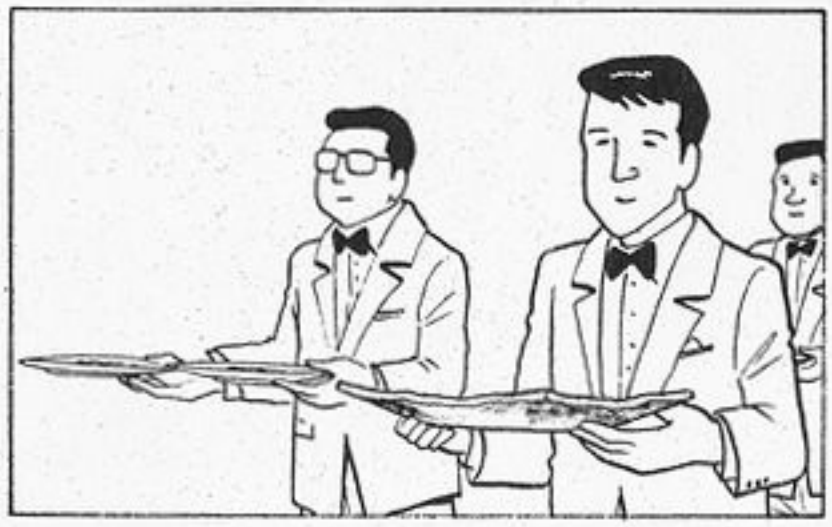
FIRST, WE TAKE FRESH STINGRAY, BOIL IT THOROUGHLY WITH VINEGAR TO REMOVE ANY UNPLEASANTNESS,

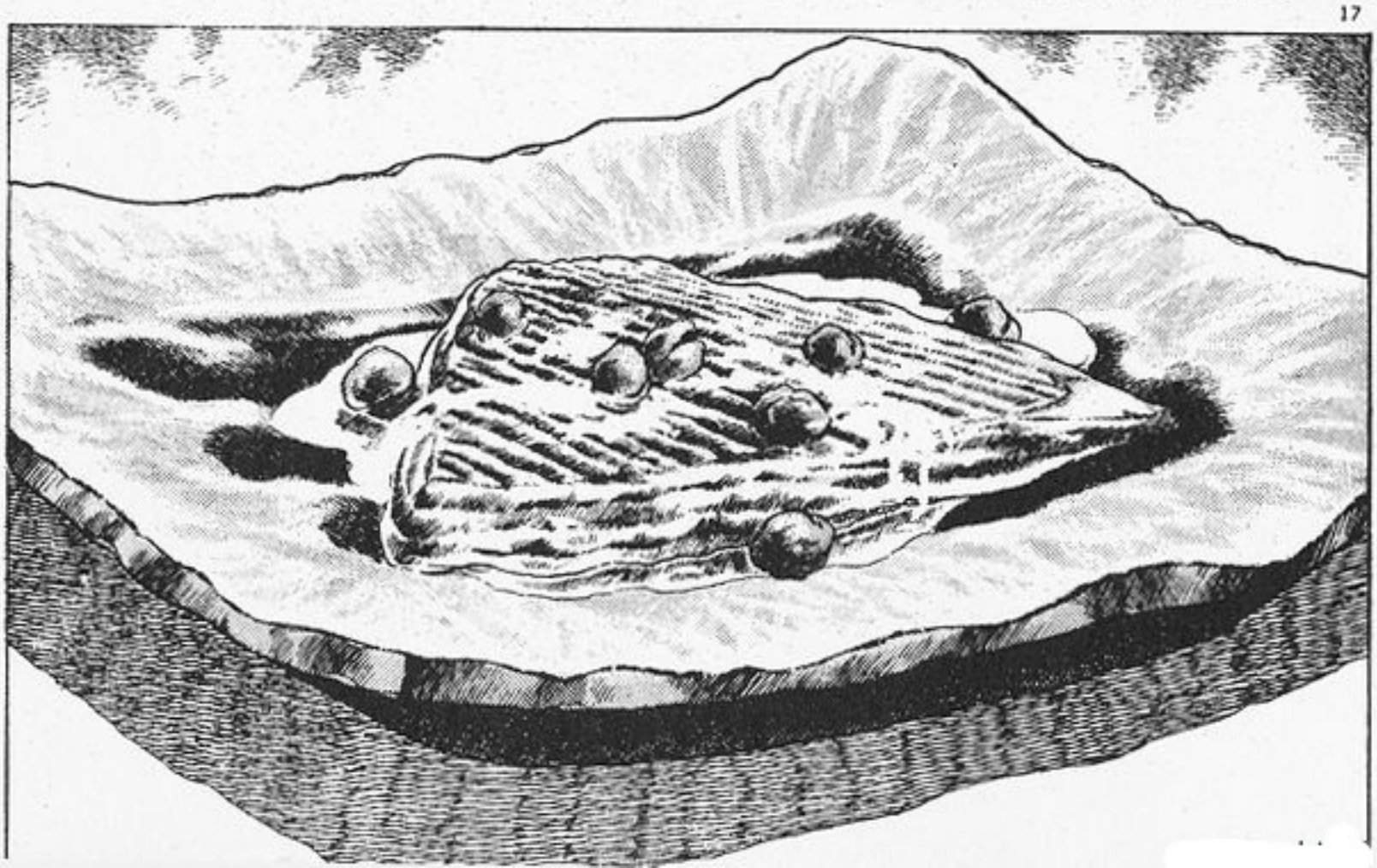
THE STINGRAY USED HERE IS FROM HOKKAIDO'S GANGI-EI.

AND THIS DISH IS FROM CHEF SAITO OF 'LA RÉSERVE'.

DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED 17







WOW, THE SURFACE IS CRISPY, AND IT HAS SUCH A DELICIOUS AROMA!

OH, THIS TEXTURE! IT'S SO CRUNCHY!

WHICH PART IS THIS?

INDEED, IT'S MY CREATION!

SAY, MY GOOD SIR, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS DISH...?

WHAT A SPLENDID MEDLEY OF COLORS!

THE SKATE FROM EARLIER WAS PRISTINE WHITE, BUT THIS ONE HAS A RICH TAWNY HUE...

I SEE, THIS IS DELIGHTFUL, ABSOLUTELY IRRESISTIBLE!!

THE CRUNCH COMES FROM THE CARTILAGE IN THE FIN.

THIS IS THE FIN PART OF THE SKATE, ESSENTIALLY THE TENDER EDGE.

18

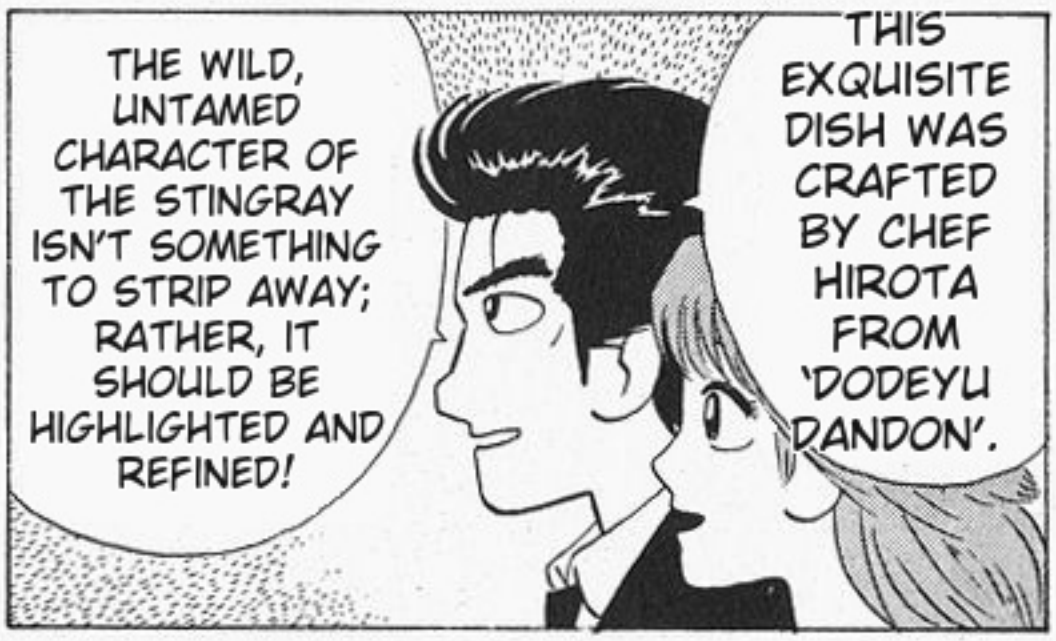
AFTER PLATING IT UP, I SPRINKLED ON SOME PARSLEY, CAPERS, AND A SPLASH OF LEMON JUICE, FINISHING IT OFF WITH A GENEROUS POUR OF HOT MELTED BUTTER.

AFTER DRYING IT OUT IN THE OVEN, I CRISPED IT UP WITH A TOUCH OF BUTTER,

AFTER BOILING, I LEFT THE WHITE SKIN ON THE BACK AND PEELED OFF THE BLACK SKIN ON THE FRONT.

I USED THE SILKY SOFT SKATE FROM KYUSHU.

DELICIOUS!

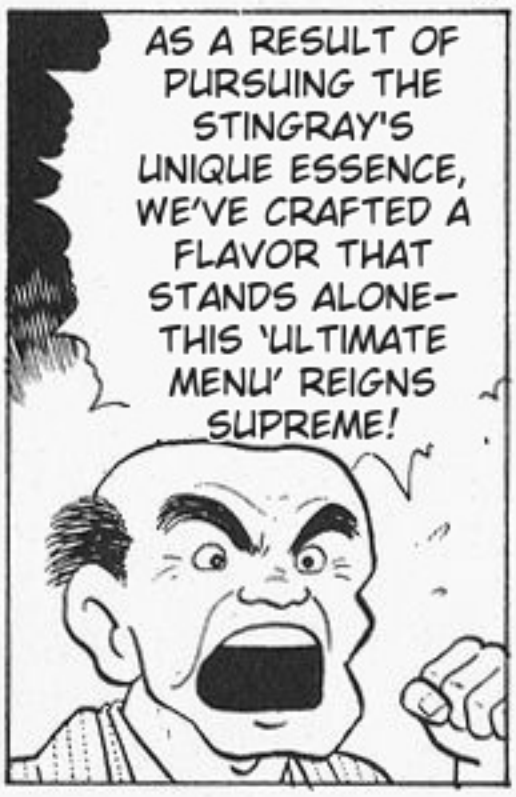

THE WILD, UNTAMED CHARACTER OF THE STINGRAY ISN'T SOMETHING TO STRIP AWAY; RATHER, IT SHOULD BE HIGHLIGHTED AND REFINED!
THIS EXQUISITE DISH WAS CRAFTED BY CHEF HIROTA FROM 'DODEYU DANDON'.

PLUCKING OUT ONLY THE BEST PARTS OF THE WHITE FLESH FOR AN ELEGANT FLAVOR IS TOO EASY!
NO, THINKING OF THE 'SUPREME MENU' THAT WAY IS JUST DULL.
IT'S NOT EASY AT ALL! IT REQUIRES INCREDIBLE SKILL!

ABSOLUTELY, THIS IS WHAT TRUE REFINEMENT LOOKS LIKE.

INDEED, THIS ELEGANT FLAVOR IS TRULY REMARKABLE.
HOWEVER, I MUST SAY, CHEF **KAIBARA** IS ON ANOTHER LEVEL ENTIRELY.

FIRST OF ALL, THAT CARTILAGE IS SO TOUGH THAT IT'S A REAL CHALLENGE FOR THE ELDERLY WITH WEAK TEETH!
NO WAY, THE STINGRAY'S EDGE IS WAY TOO BOLD FOR THE AVERAGE PALATE!
YOU REALLY CAN'T CRITIQUE COOKING, CAN YOU?!


AS A RESULT OF PURSUING THE STINGRAY'S UNIQUE ESSENCE, WE'VE CRAFTED A FLAVOR THAT STANDS ALONE— THIS 'ULTIMATE MENU' REIGNS SUPREME!

MR. KII...

WELL, THE JUDGES ARE CERTAINLY EXCHANGING SOME HEATED WORDS...

OH NO, THIS IS A DISASTER!

WHY, MR. FUMOTO, I'D BE DELIGHTED!

KII'S DISHES. WOULD YOU ALLOW ME TO WORK WITH YOU?

IT SEEMS I'VE BEEN TOO STUBBORN TO TRY MR.

YAMAOKA, I'VE REALIZED JUST HOW DELICIOUS THEY TRULY ARE.

I HAD DISMISSED SHARK AND RAY WITHOUT EVEN TASTING THEM, BUT THANKS TO MR.

20

BOTH OF THESE DISHES ARE WORTHY OF THE ULTIMATE AND SUPREME MENU!

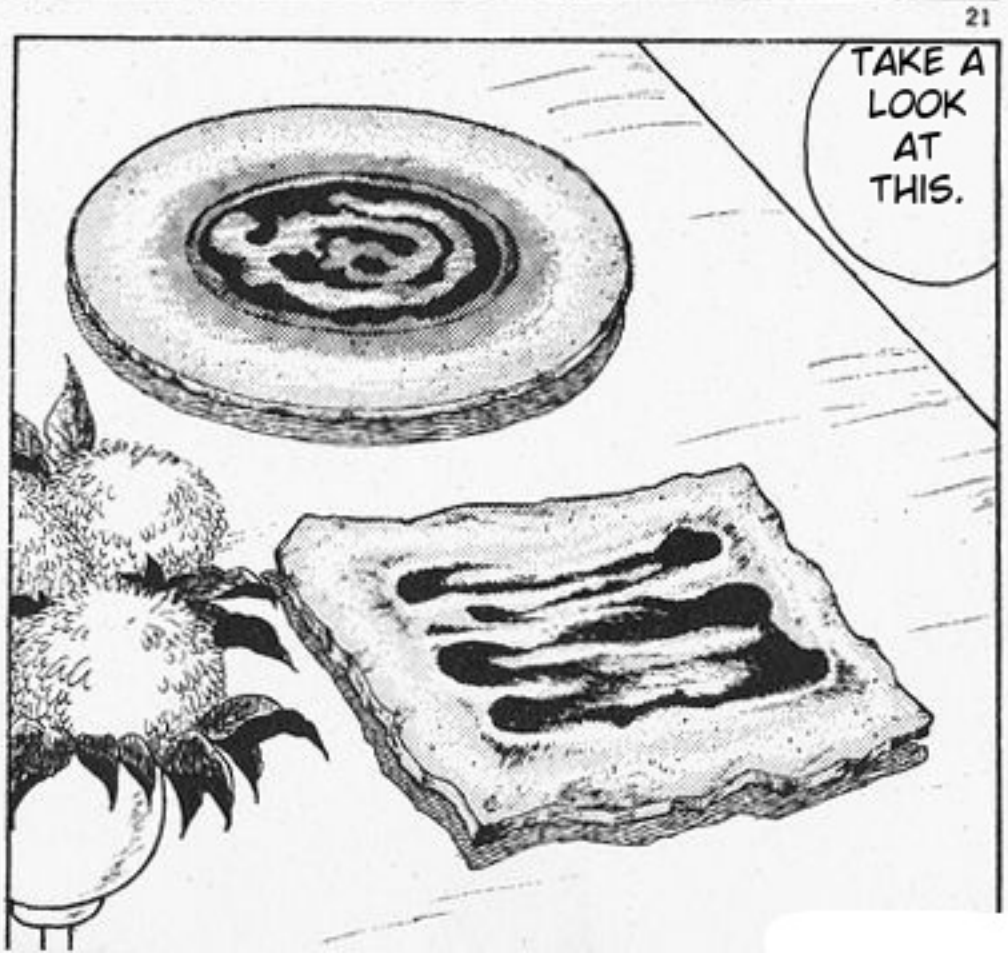
WELL, THAT SEEMS FAIR ENOUGH.

WITH THE WORDS OF THOSE TWO JUST NOW, THE CONCLUSION IS CLEAR!

HA HA HA! DID YOU HEAR THAT, EVERYONE?

THIS MATCH ENDS IN A TIE!

DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED 17



ISN'T IT TIME TO ACKNOWLEDGE EACH OTHER?

WITH YOUR FEELINGS AND THOUGHTS SO PERFECTLY ALIGNED, WHY DO YOU HARBOR SUCH HATRED?

YOU TWO CAME HERE FOR THIS IGA PLATE... YOU MUST HAVE THOUGHT IT MATCHED THE COLOR OF THE STINGRAY'S FLESH.

EVEN YOU, SENSEI, SMASH YOUR FAILURES AGAINST THE GROUND UNTIL THEY SHATTER, DON'T YOU?

PROFESSOR TOYAMA, SHIRO IS ONE OF MY FAILED CREATIONS...

WHO WOULD EVER ASSOCIATE WITH SUCH A DESPICABLE MAN?!

OUR FEELINGS AND THOUGHTS ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT!

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22

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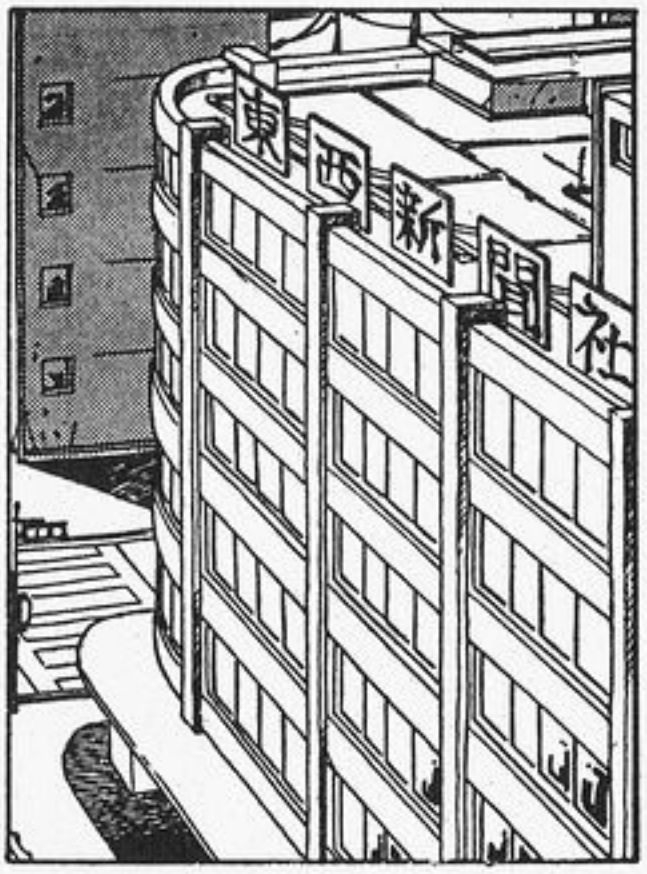
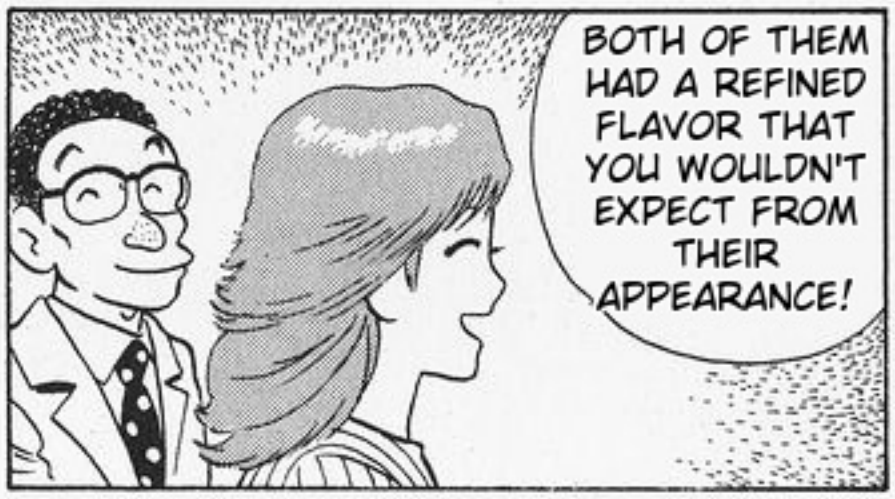
YOU BASTARD!

DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED 17





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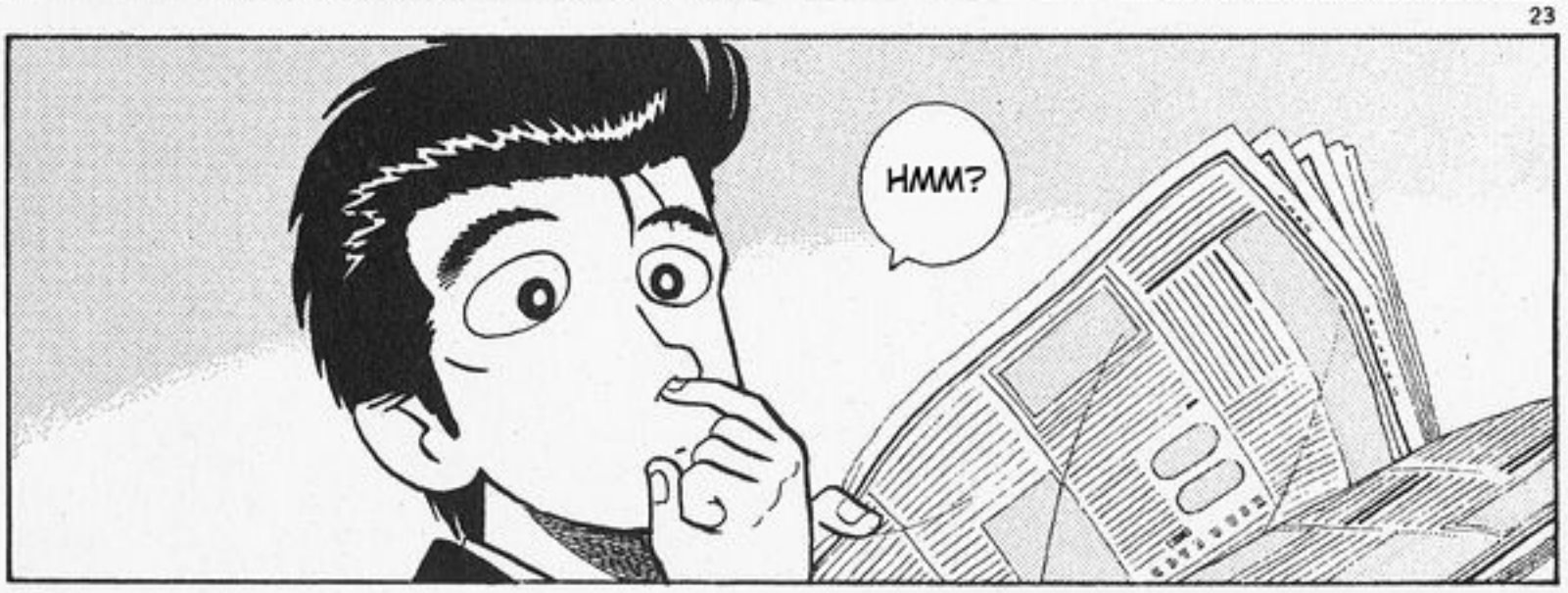

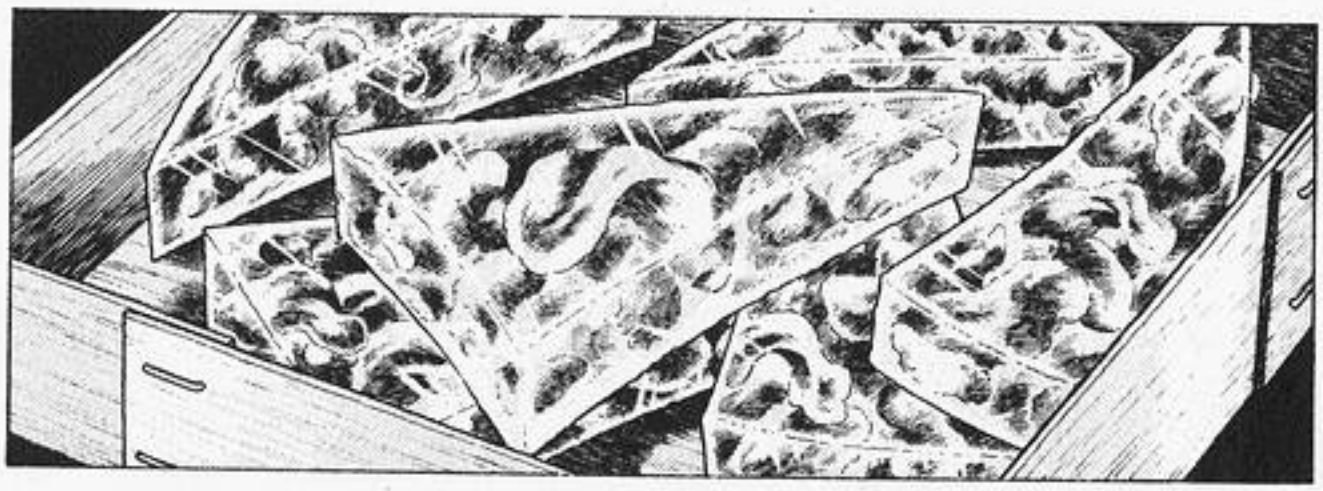

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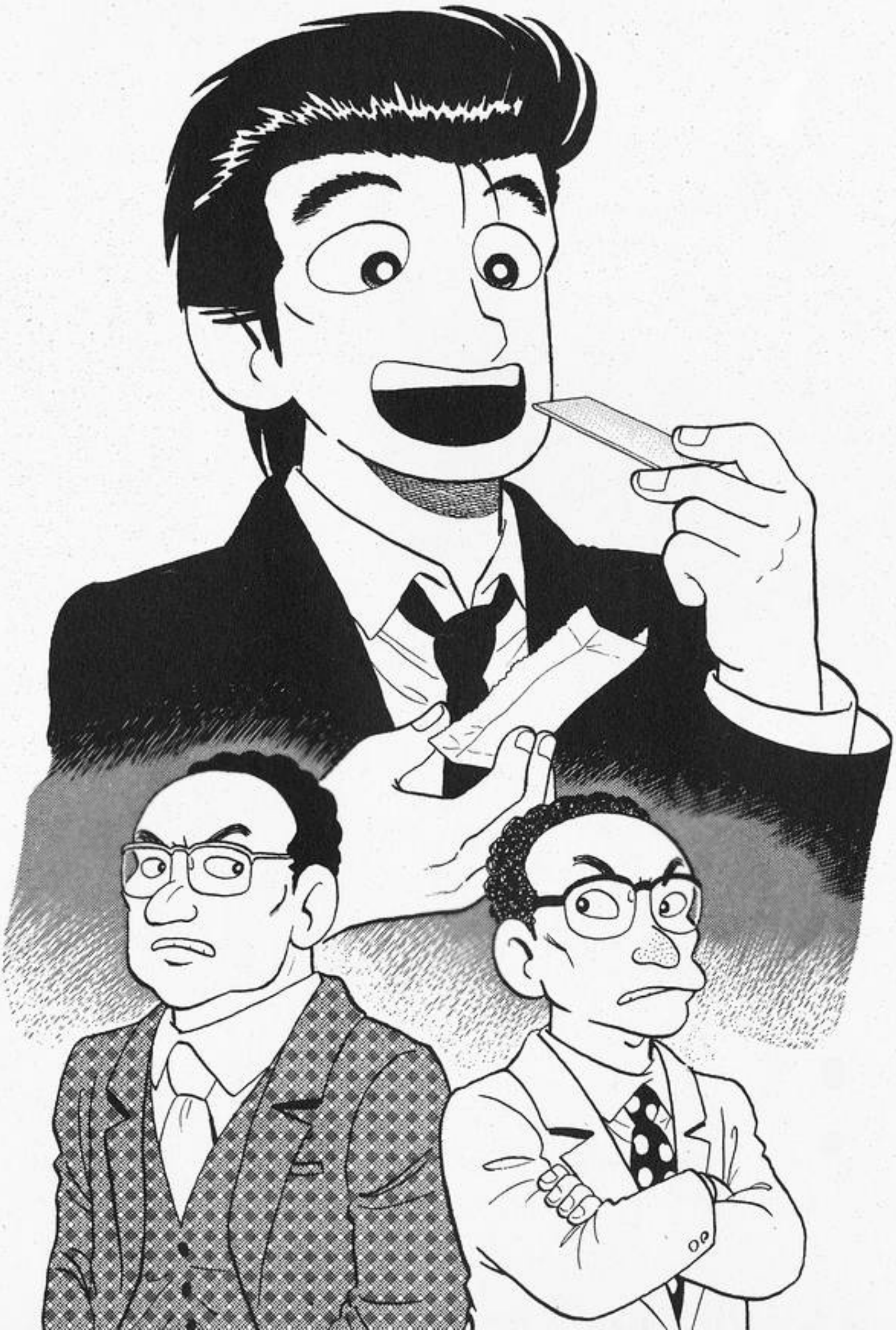


CARE TO JOIN ME TONIGHT?

SO, HOW ABOUT IT?

I'M SORRY, BUT WE'VE GOT OTHER COMMITMENTS TODAY...

新聞社

OH DEAR, WHAT A SHAME, ESPECIALLY SINCE YOU'RE ALL DRESSED UP!

AH, LADIES, HOW ABOUT TREATING YOURSELVES TO SOMETHING DELICIOUS...?

WE HAVE PLANS, YOU SEE.

THAT'S DANGEROUS! THERE'S SOMETHING FISHY GOING ON.

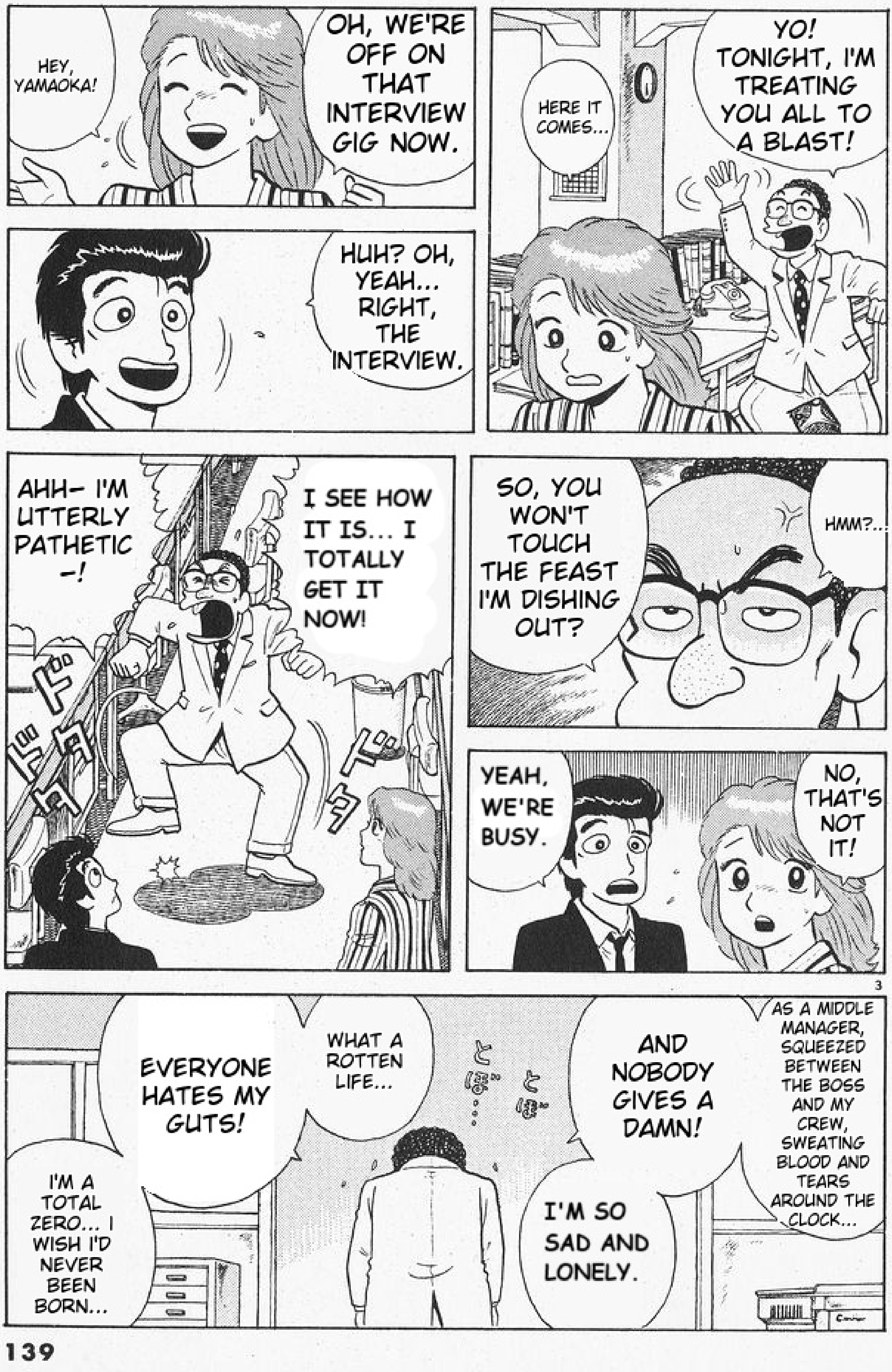
HE'S BEING UNUSUALLY FRIENDLY, ISN'T HE...?

2

HURRY UP! YAMAOKA-SAN, LET'S MOVE IT!

I CAN'T FIND MY TRAIN PASS!!!

DELICIOUS IN DUNGEON 17



SO, FIGURED YOU ALL COULD CRASH THE PARTY TOO...

WELL... TRUTH IS, I'M LINKING UP WITH MY BRO FOR A LONG-OVERDUE BITE.

LET'S ROLL! HITTING THE ROAD'S THE PLAY, RIGHT?!

ALRIGHT, FINE! WE'LL GO WITH YOU!!!!

ニヤ…

TODAY'S THE DAY TO HASH IT ALL OUT.

OUR FAMILY TEMPLE'S IN SOME REDEVELOPMENT MESS, SO WE GOTTA SHIFT DAD'S GRAVE PRONTO,

OH, NO, IT'S NOT A PROBLEM. YOU SEE...

OH MY, IF WE BUTT IN, WE'LL WRECK YOUR RARE BRO-BONDING SESH.

4

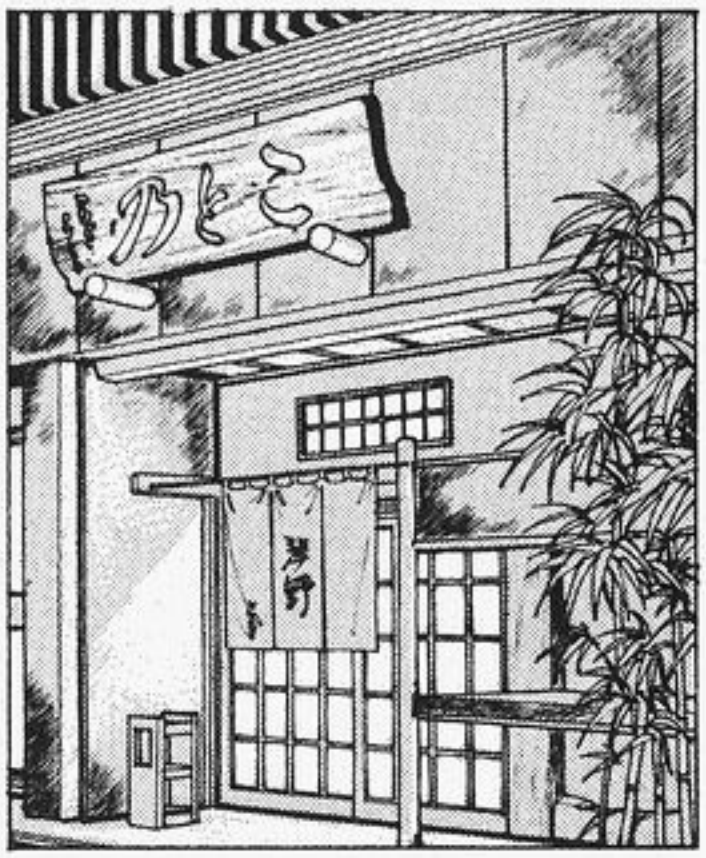
THERE'S SOMETHING SCREWY HERE...

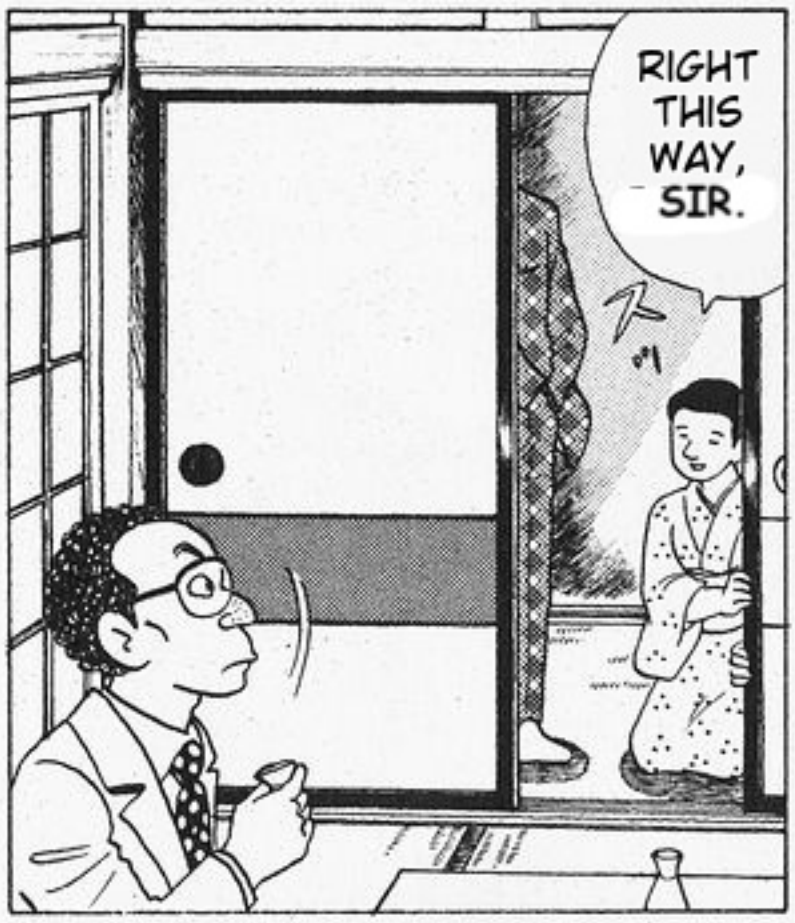
...WHY THE HECK ARE YOU SO EAGER TO DRAG US ALONG?

I TOTALLY WANT YOU TO TAG ALONG!

BUT SERIOUSLY, IT'S NO SWEAT!

WHERE THE HELL IS HE?! IT'S BEEN OVER AN HOUR!!!




RIGHT THIS WAY, SIR.

HE DOESN'T RESPECT OUR FATHER ONE BIT!!
SERIOUSLY, OSAMU'S ALWAYS PULLING THIS CRAP!

TOMII-SAN, TAKE IT EASY THERE...

SPOT-ON IDENTICAL!
WHOA!

I'M NOT LIKE YOU, TOMIO. A DEADBEAT DESK DRONE - I'M SWAMPED AND LOVING IT!

AIN'T NO WAY AROUND IT, HUH?!

WHAT THE HECK WERE YOU UP TO? YOU'RE AN HOUR LATE!

I'M KURITA YUKO.

THIS IS YAMAOKA AND KURITA...

HEY THERE, FOLKS!

YOU JERK!!!

WHAT A FEISTY, FEUDING BRO DUO...

6

WHAT'D YOU JUST SAY?!

SO ARE YOU SKIMMING THE PROFITS OFF THE BACK OF THE WORKERS?

WE'RE IN THE WILD WORLD OF CONSTRUCTION!

SO YOU'RE THE PRESIDENT OF YOUR OWN COMPANY?

(株) 富井土建興業
社長 富井 修

"THIS IS NO JOKE, YOU KNOW! WHY THE HECK DO WE HAVE TO GET DRAGGED INTO THE TOMII BROTHERS' FIGHT?

OH DEAR.

"EXCUSE ME FOR INTERRUPTING.

OSAMU, IT'S CREEPING UP ON DAD'S THIRTEENTH MEMORIAL ANNIVERSARY.

"OH, REALLY?

"DAD WAS THE SWEETEST, MOST CARING FATHER EVER...

"HMPH!

"IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF THAT TEMPLE HASSLE— WE'VE GOTTA HAUL AND RELOCATE THE GRAVE!

"WE COULDN'T EVEN SPLURGE ON A LOUSY PIECE OF CANDY...

"BACK IN OUR KID DAYS, WE WERE FLAT BROKE AND STRUGGLING HARD...

IT MADE ME GREEN WITH ENVY...

ONE DAY, THE KID NEXT DOOR WAS CHOMPING ON CHEWING GUM,

THEN DAD CHIMED IN, "ALRIGHT, LET'S CRANK OUT SOME GUM!

BUT GUM WAS WAY OUT OF REACH, SO MOM WAS TOTALLY STUMPED...

YOU SPOTTED IT AND BURST OUT CRYING, "I WANT GUM TOO!

ONCE YOU CHOMPED ON THAT GUM, YOUR GRUMPY MOOD MELTED AWAY.

強力粉

小麦粉

HE MIXED UP THAT FLOUR AND WHIPPED US SOME GUM!

8

HE POURED HIS HEART AND SOUL INTO IT FOR US...

WHAT A SWEETHEART OF A DAD HE WAS...

ABSOLUTELY!

WHOA... HE ACTUALLY KNEADED THAT FLOUR INTO GUM HIMSELF?

STOP SPOUTING NONSENSE!

CUT IT OUT!

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WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU SAYING!

OUR FATHER MAY HAVE BEEN SWEET TO YOU, BUT HE WAS NOTHING BUT COLD TO ME.

OSAMU?

BUT, I WAS IN MY FOURTH YEAR. I WAS TRYING TO GRADUATE!

SO WHAT ABOUT YOU, TOMIO, HUH?! MAKING ME SLAVE AWAY WHILE YOU GOT YOUR EDUCATION!!!

HE SENT YOU TO COLLEGE, BUT LEFT ME HIGH AND DRY.

HE WOULD'VE SENT YOU IF HE COULD...

BUT OSAMU, THAT WAS RIGHT WHEN HIS BUSINESS FAILED.

EVEN BROKE AS WE WERE, HE DIDN'T MOPE—HE WHIPPED UP GUM FROM FLOUR LIKE A TOTAL SWEETHEART!

WELL, BLAME ME ALL YOU WANT FOR DITCHING COLLEGE, BUT BACK OFF DAD!

HE GAVE EVERY-THING TO YOU.

I NEVER WANTED THIS CONSTRUCTION GIG! I DREAMED OF BEING A SCHOLAR...

WHAT THE HECK? GUM FROM FLOUR? NO WAY!

WHAT ARE YOU SPOUTING? GUM FROM FLOUR? YOU MUST BE LOST IN A DREAM!

HUH?

10

SAYING DAD WAS KIND? THAT'S YOUR WILD DELUSION, TOMIO!

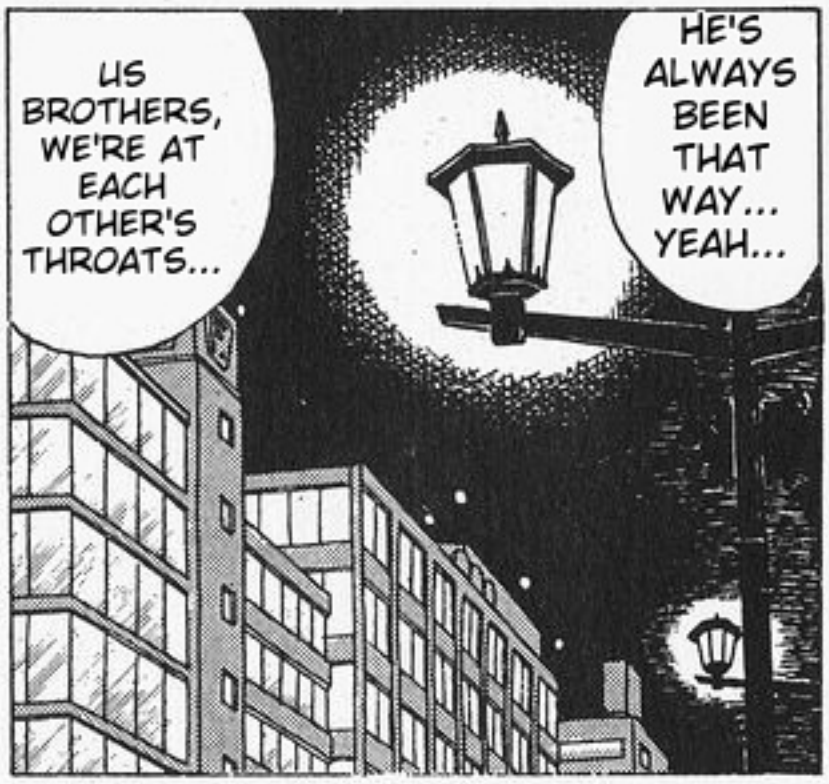
DELUSION, PURE AND SIMPLE!

KNEAD THAT FLOUR AND YOU JUST GET UDON DOUGH! HEAT IT UP AND IT TURNS ROCK-HARD!

?

THAT JUNK CAN'T PASS FOR GUM, RIGHT?!

WAIT, OSAMU!
HEY, IF YOU'RE ITCHING TO RELOCATE DAD'S GRAVE, KNOCK YOURSELF OUT! I'M WASHING MY HANDS OF THE WHOLE MESS!

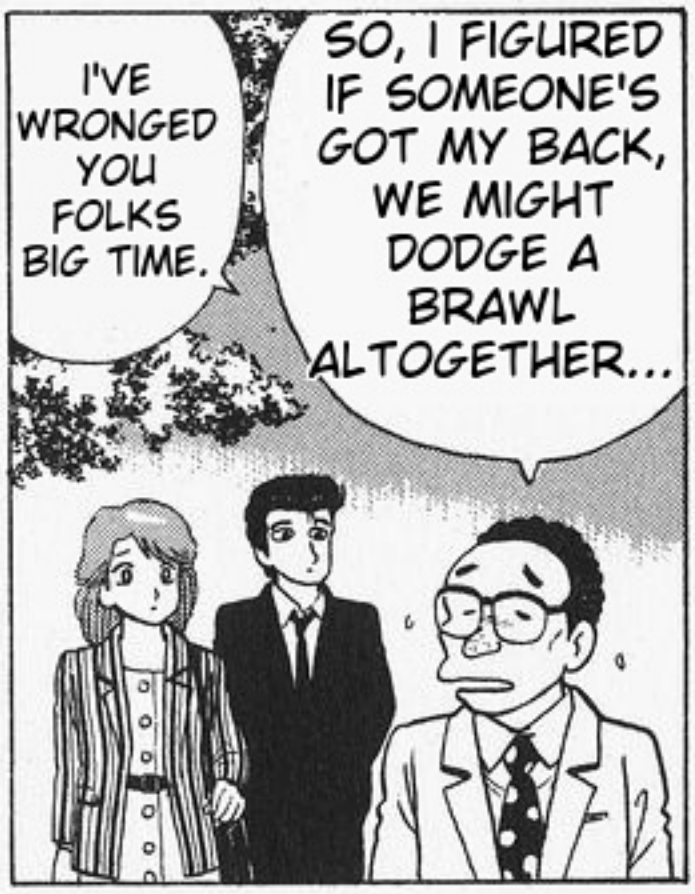

US BROTHERS, WE'RE AT EACH OTHER'S THROATS...
HE'S ALWAYS BEEN THAT WAY... YEAH...

.....

11

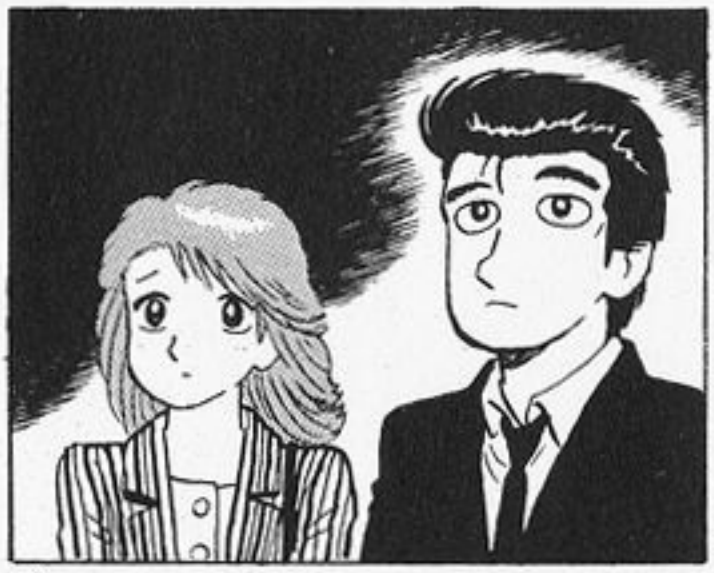
OH, NO, NOTHING LIKE THAT...

HE PRACTICALLY BUSTED HIS GUTS TRYING TO MAKE THINGS WORK...
MY OLD MAN, EVER SINCE HE FLED CHINA BUCK NAKED AFTER THE WAR'S DEFEAT,


I'VE WRONGED YOU FOLKS BIG TIME.
SO, I FIGURED IF SOMEONE'S GOT MY BACK, WE MIGHT DODGE A BRAWL ALTOGETHER...

I REALLY THOUGHT DAD WHIPPED UP SOME GUM SUBSTITUTE WITH THAT GOOD OL' AMERICAN FLOUR...
BUT STILL, IT'S A BIT STRANGE...
COULD I BE MISTAKEN ON THAT?

I'LL TAKE MY LEAVE NOW.
WELL THEN... I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT THIS, YOU TWO.



THANK YOU FOR THE MEAL, TOMII!
BYE.

12

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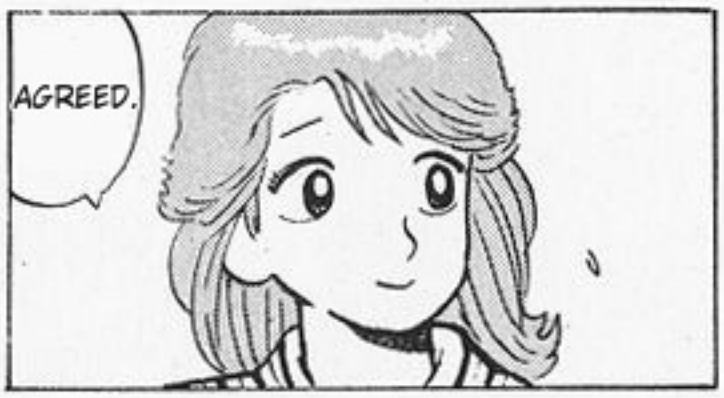
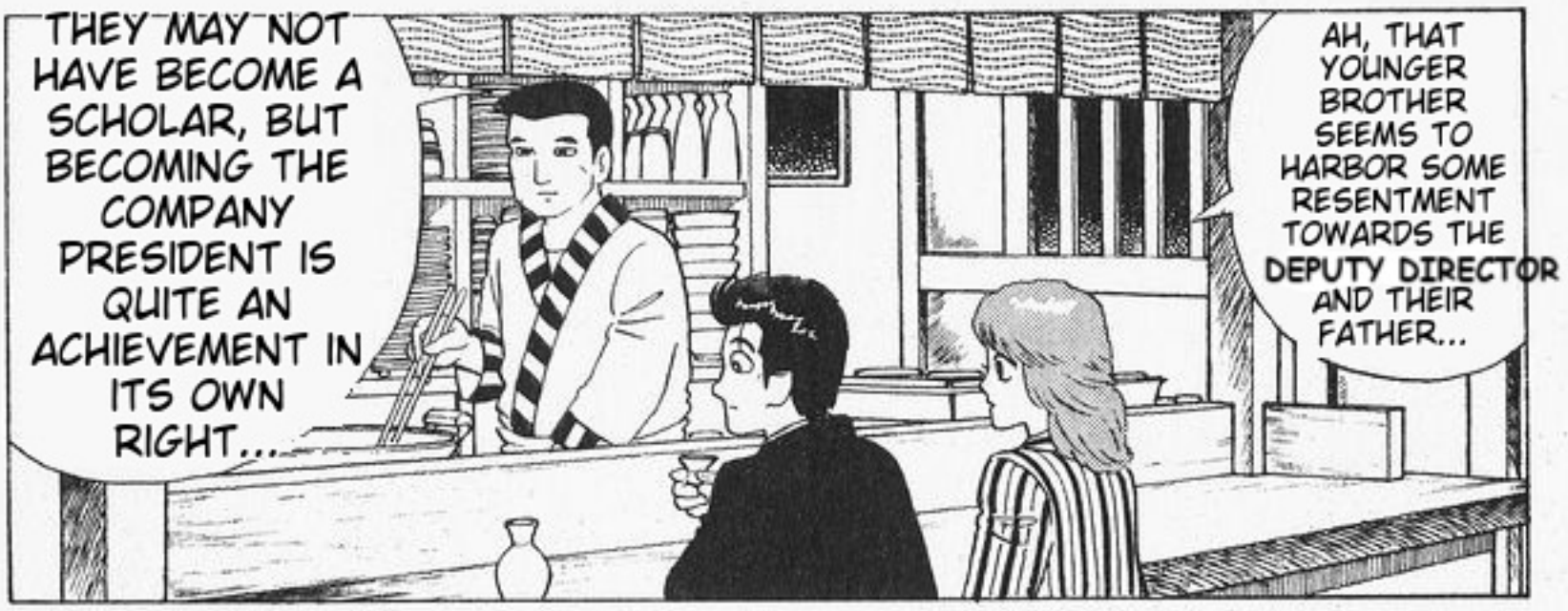
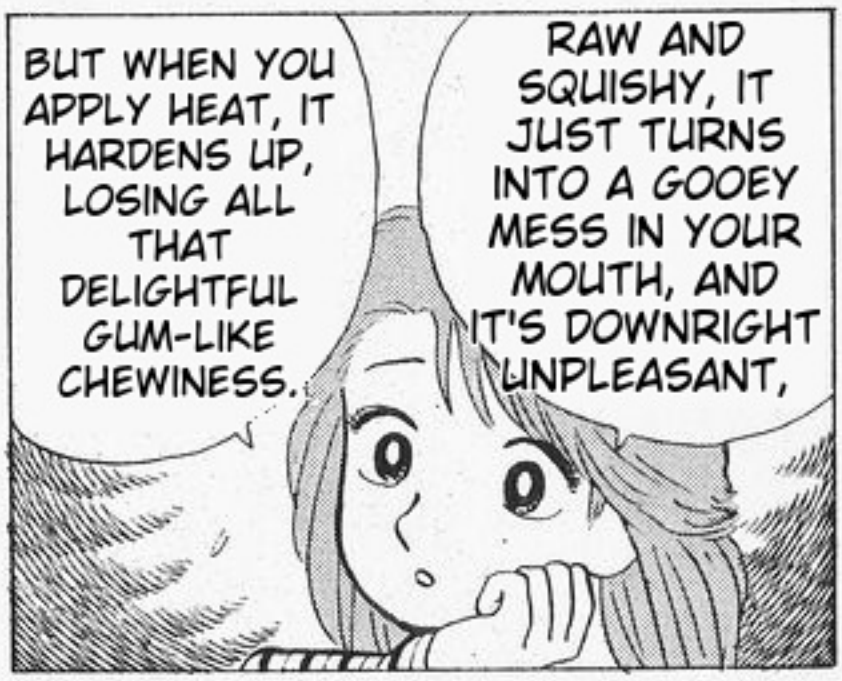
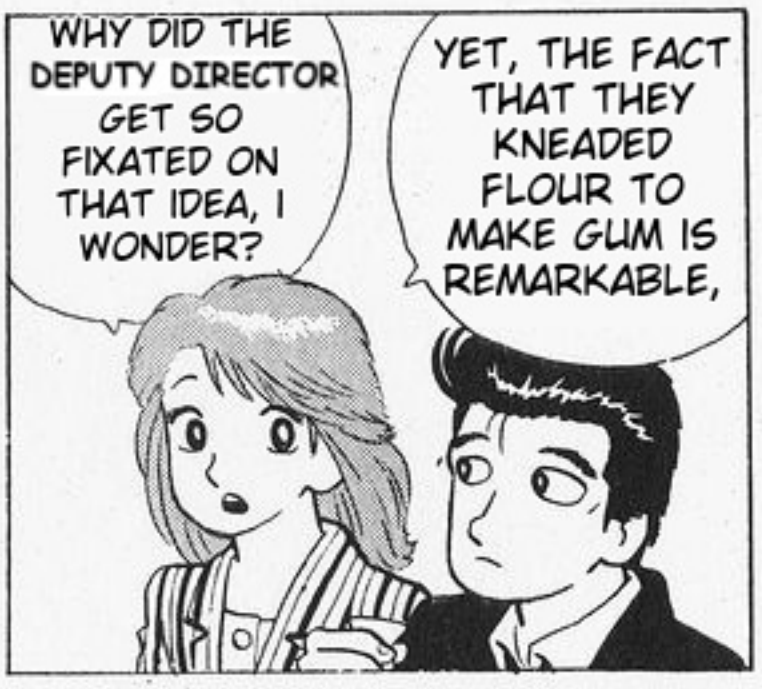
HOW ABOUT WE DO A LITTLE FIX-UP?
IT JUST FELT LIKE I WASN'T REALLY EATING ANYTHING.

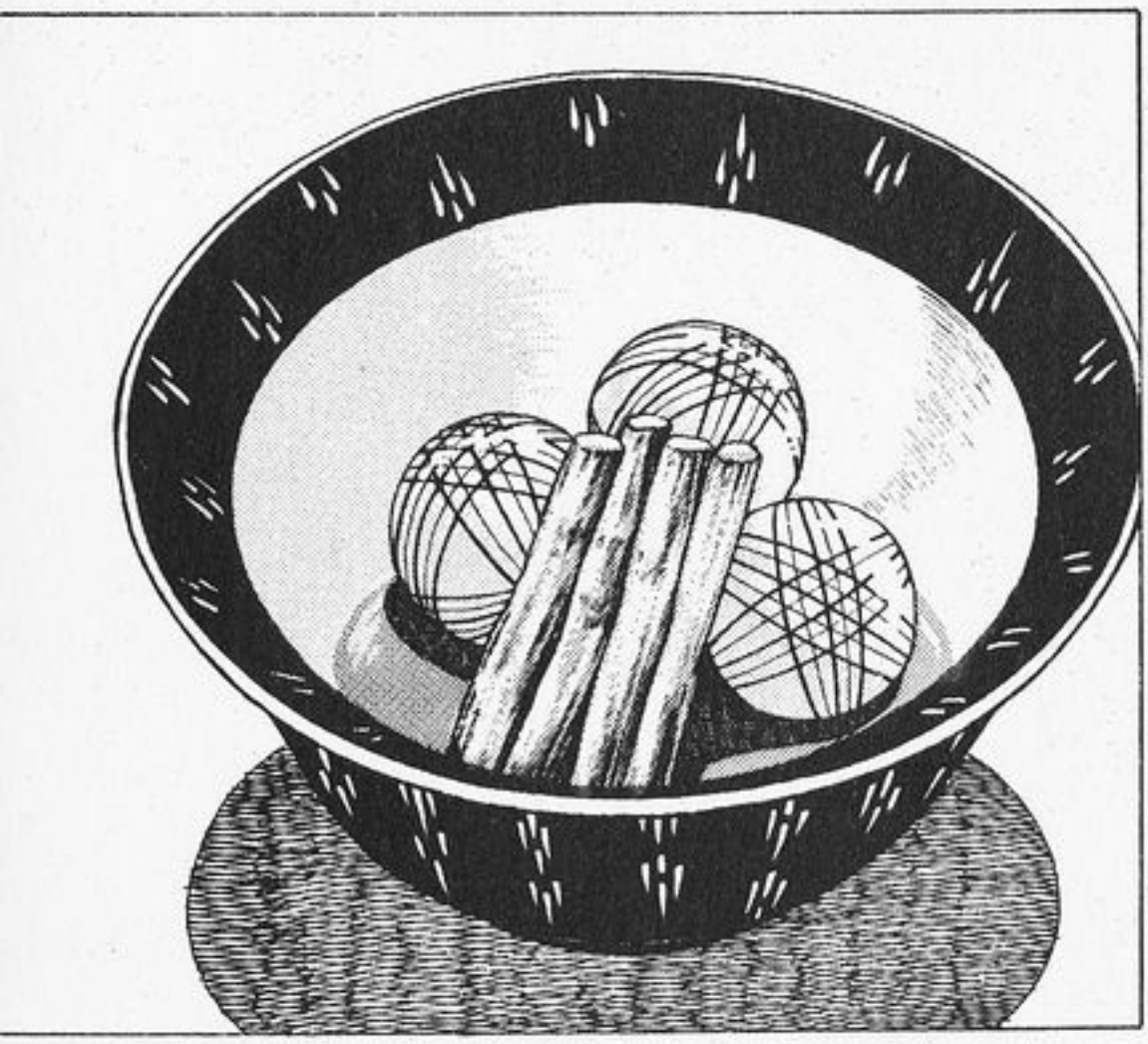

AGREED.

DELICIOUS!









13

THIS TEXTURE MASHUP IS A TOTAL THRILL RIDE!

THE VEG HAS THAT CRISP CRUNCH AND THE GLUTEN IS SO CHEWY...

WOW, IT'S ABSOLUTELY STUNNING!

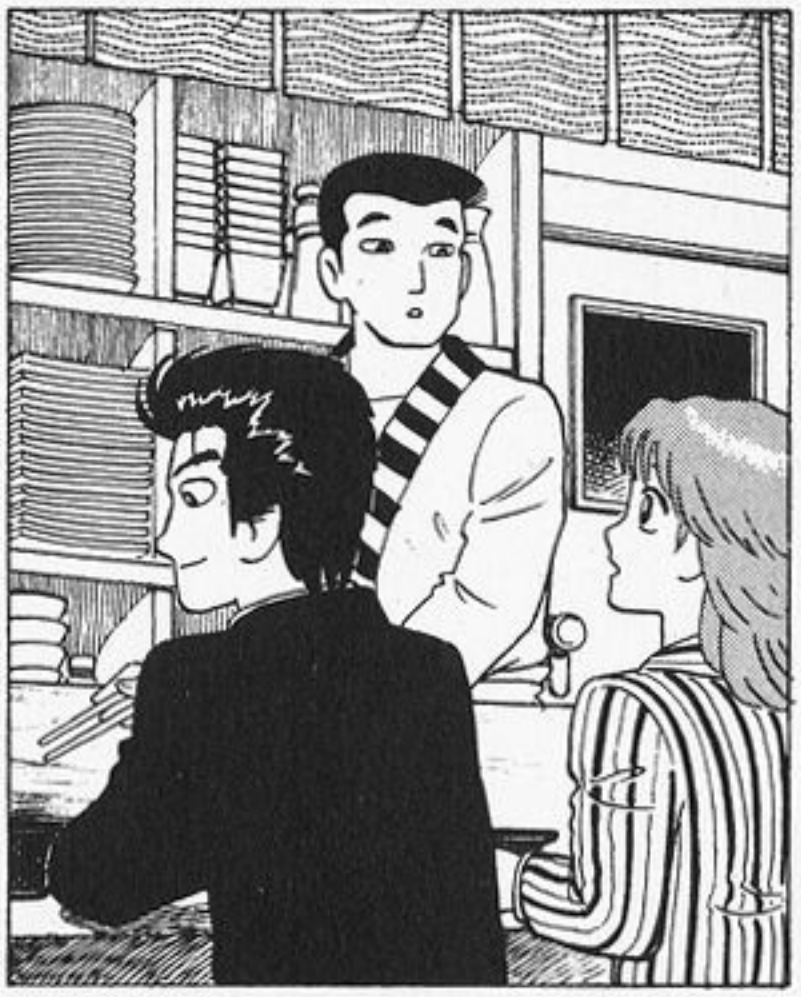
OH, WHAT A HEAVENLY SCENT!

THE TEXTURE OF FRESH GLUTEN IS WHAT MAKES IT SHINE!

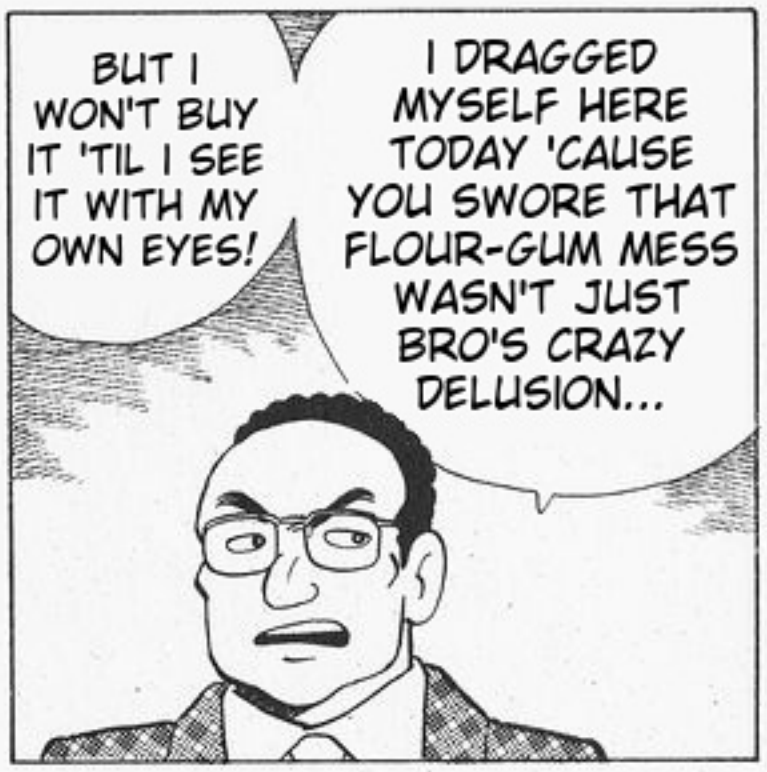
...HUH? WHAT'S THE DEAL?

AH....

14



DELICIOUS!


BUT I WON'T BUY IT 'TIL I SEE IT WITH MY OWN EYES!
I DRAGGED MYSELF HERE TODAY 'CAUSE YOU SWORE THAT FLOUR-GUM MESS WASN'T JUST BRO'S CRAZY DELUSION...

NO WAY I'D WANNA PATCH THINGS UP NOW, NO THANKS!
OUR SIBLING FEUD'S BEEN NASTY SINCE THE DAWN OF TIME.

.....
I'LL GIVE YOU A FRONT-ROW SEAT TO THAT SHOW!

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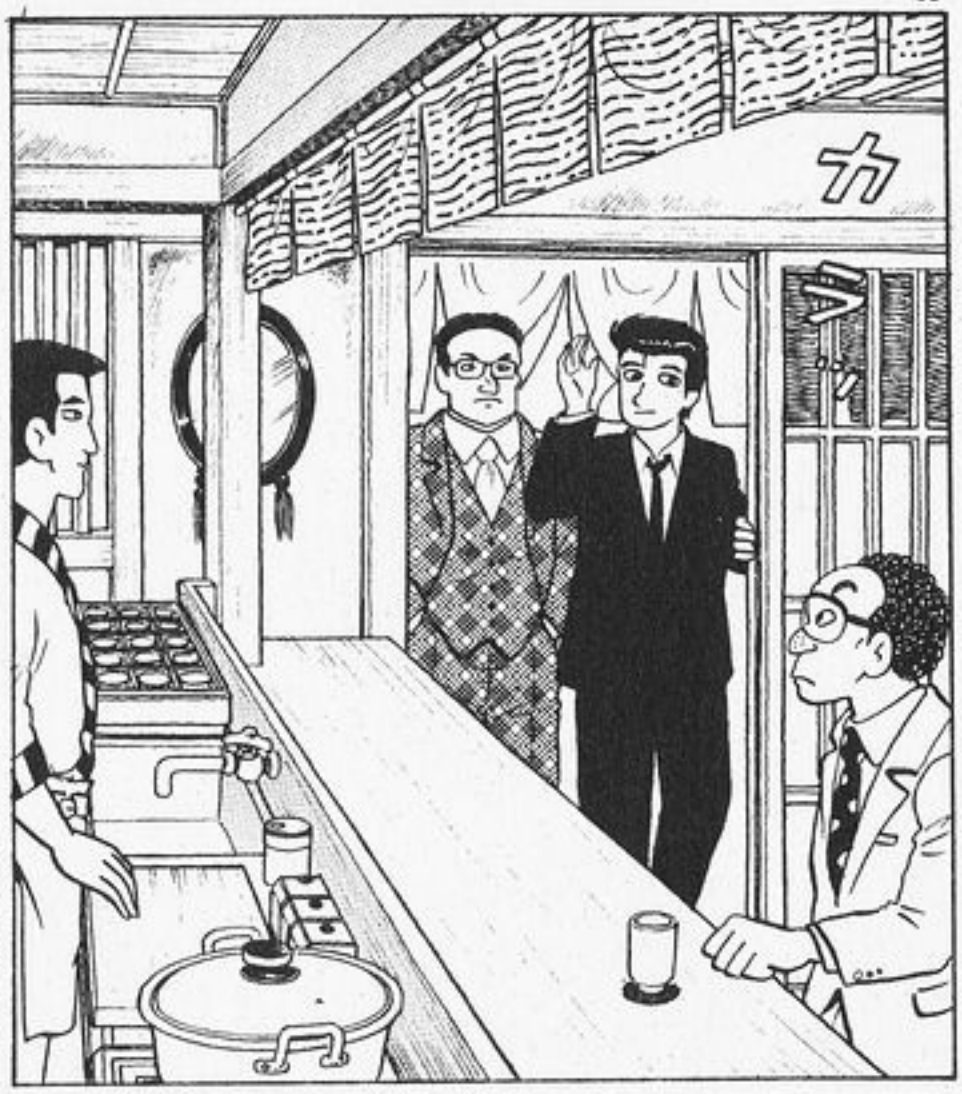


WHAT?!

YOU SAID IT COULD ACTUALLY WORK!

ME? I FIGURE KNEADING FLOUR WON'T WHIP UP ANY GUM STAND-IN, NO WAY!

ALRIGHTY, LET'S DIVE RIGHT IN!

I'M STRAIGHT-UP SAYING KNEADING FLOUR TO MAKE IT IS TOTAL BOGUS DELUSION!

IT'S NOT LIKE I'M SAYING THE FLOUR-MADE IDEA IS JUST A WILD ILLUSION, Y'KNOW!

...THIS IS ALL KINDS OF BAFFLING.

THAT'S 'CAUSE THE DEPUTY BOSS'S DELUSION IS SMACK IN THE MIDDLE OF IT!

HOLD UP A SEC!

DIDN'T I JUST SAY IT'S NOT MY DELUSION, HUH?

YAMAOKA, WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU SPOUTING NOW?!

THIS IS YOUR RUN-OF-THE-MILL FLOUR, THE SUPER-STRONG KIND!

SO, LET'S ACTUALLY GIVE IT A WHIRL!

WHOA, ARE YOU GONNA SPLASH ME WITH WATER?!
WASHING IT BY RUBBING WHILE DOUSING IT?
THEN ALL THAT POWDER'S GONNA DISSOLVE AND WASH AWAY!
HEY HEY, THAT POWDER IN YOUR HAND'S VANISHING FAST!
I'M A BUSY MAN AND YOU DRAG ME HERE...
IS THIS JUST SOME KIND OF JOKE TO YOU?!
WELL, JUST YOU WATCH THIS NOW!

THE POWDER'S ALL WASHED AWAY, AND YOU'RE RUBBING YOUR HANDS? WHY ON EARTH?

THIS PROVES THE POWDER'S TOTALLY VANISHED FOR GOOD!

THE WATER'S LOST ITS MILKY GLOW... .....

ALRIGHT!

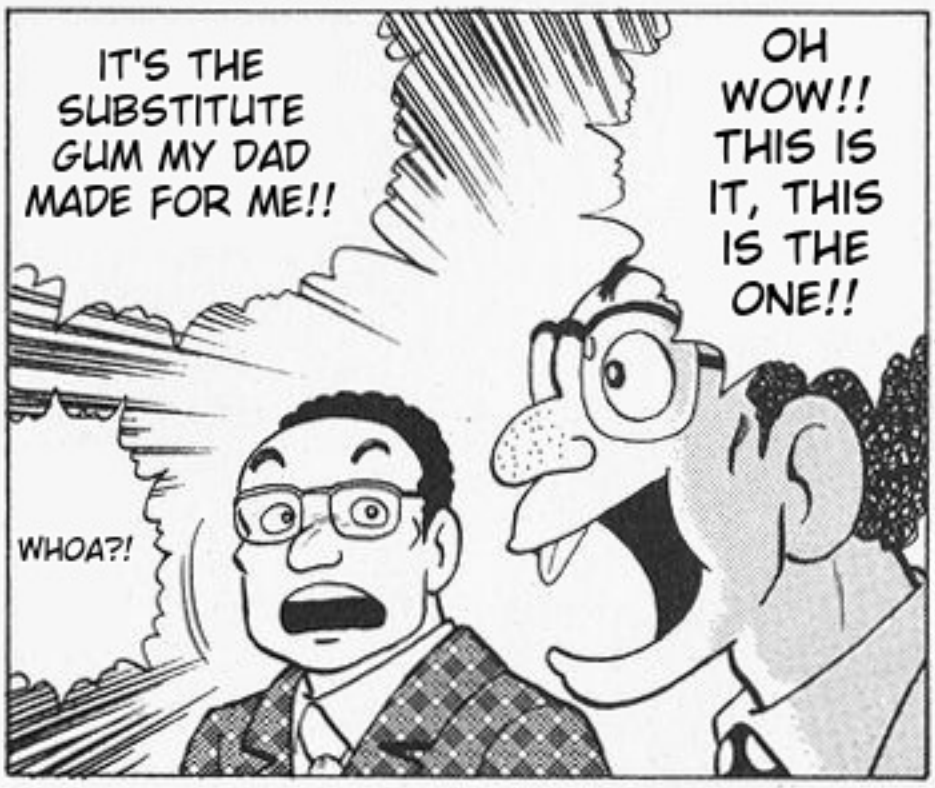
ALRIGHT? WHAT'S THAT EVEN MEAN...?

GO ON, GIVE IT A WHIRL!

UH, YEAH.....

WHAT?!

WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?!?


IT'S THE SUBSTITUTE GUM MY DAD MADE FOR ME!!
OH WOW!! THIS IS IT, THIS IS THE ONE!!
WHOA?!

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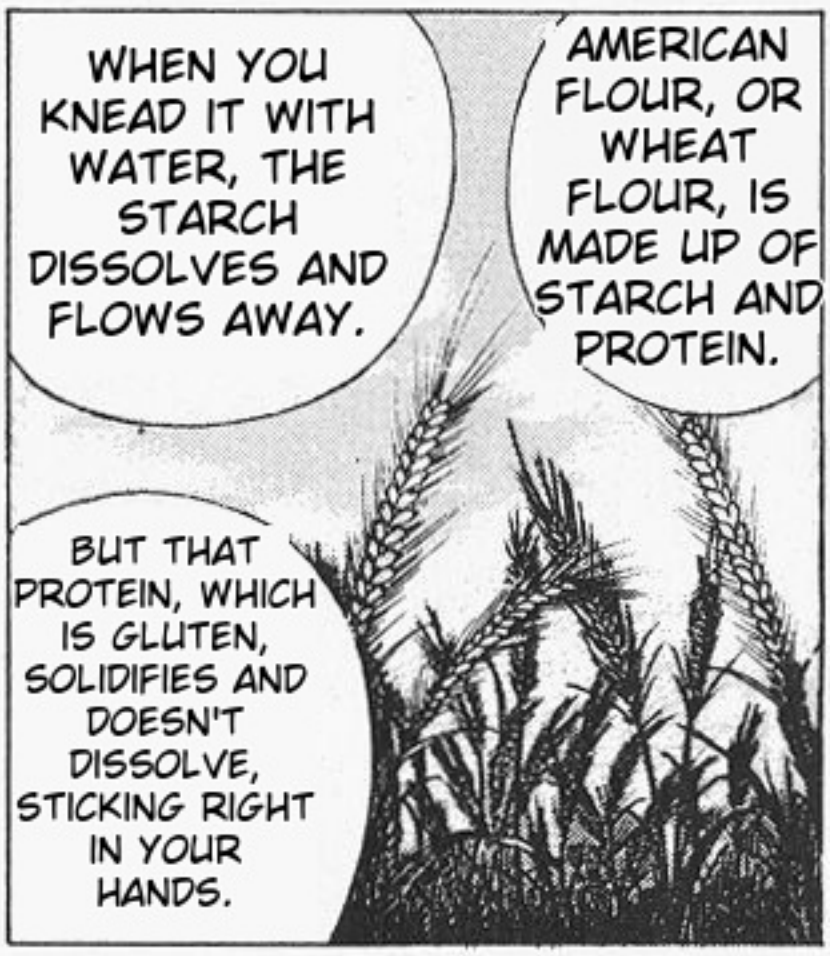
WHEN YOU KNEAD IT WITH WATER, THE STARCH DISSOLVES AND FLOWS AWAY.
AMERICAN FLOUR, OR WHEAT FLOUR, IS MADE UP OF STARCH AND PROTEIN.
BUT THAT PROTEIN, WHICH IS GLUTEN, SOLIDIFIES AND DOESN'T DISSOLVE, STICKING RIGHT IN YOUR HANDS.

ACTUALLY, YOU KNEAD IT WHILE LETTING THE WATER FLOW LIKE THIS.
WHEN THE ASSISTANT MANAGER SAID THEY KNEADED SOME AMERICAN FLOUR, IT WAS JUST A MISUNDERSTANDING.

WHAT DOES THAT EVEN MEAN?!

WANT TO GIVE IT A TRY?

SO, I HAD A HUNCH THAT THE GUM MADE FROM THE AMERICAN FLOUR WAS SIMILAR TO THE CAKE...
I ATE SOME FRESH GLUTEN CAKE, AND IT REMINDED ME—IT'S ALL ABOUT THAT GLUTEN!
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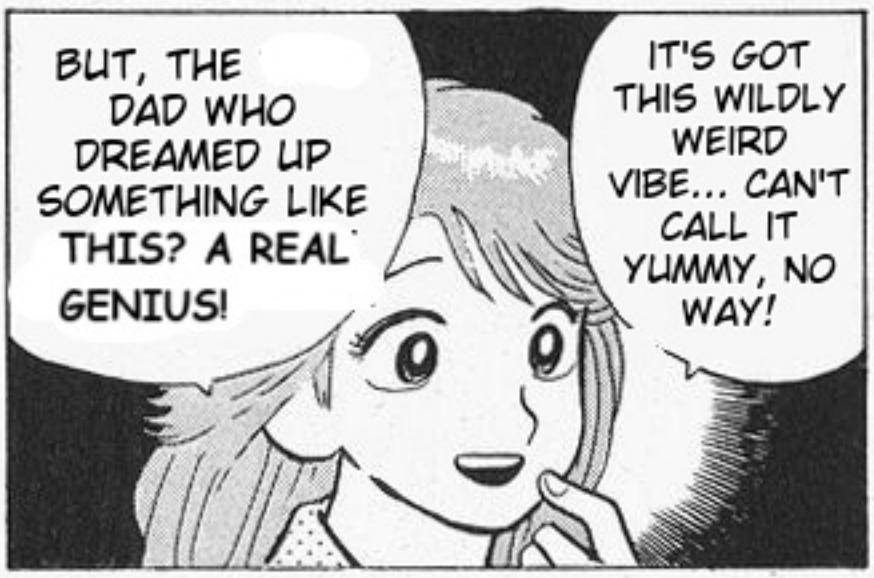
SO RAW AND GREEN-STINKING... TOTALLY FLAVORLESS JUNK!
THE RAW, EARTHY BLAST OF FRESH WHEAT!
GOD, IT'S DISGUSTINGLY FOUL...
JUST IN THESE BARREN, NOTHING TIMES, USING JUNK LIKE THIS AS GUM? UNBELIEVABLE!
20
THIS AS A GUM SWAP? HOW UTTERLY PATHETIC...
PARENTS COULDN'T EVEN SCORE REAL GUM FOR KIDS, STUCK HANDING OUT THIS CRAP...
BET THAT WAS PURE HELL TO ENDURE...
IT'S ALL FLOODING BACK-THIS TASTE, THIS GRITTY FEEL, THIS PUNGENT WHIFF...
DAD WRACKED HIS BRAIN, SQUEEZING SMARTS TO CHEER ME WITH THIS MESS...

Boo

ME NOT MAKING IT TO COLLEGE? TOTALLY TWISTED MY MIND INTO KNOTS, MAN!
BRO, SORRY ABOUT THAT.

YEAH, POPS WAS A REAL SOFTIE... BATTLING BAD LUCK HEAD-ON, HUSTLING TO KICK POVERTY TO THE CURB LIKE A CHAMP!
WHAT A SWEETHEART OF A DAD HE WAS, HUH.


BUT, THE DAD WHO DREAMED UP SOMETHING LIKE THIS? A REAL GENIUS!
IT'S GOT THIS WILDLY WEIRD VIBE... CAN'T CALL IT YUMMY, NO WAY!

DRAGGING YOU INTO WORK LIKE THAT, I WAS SUCH A LAME BROTHER MYSELF...

BRO, LET'S JAZZ UP DAD'S GRAVE AND MAKE IT SHINE!
OSAMU.

CHOMP CHOMP CHOMP!

東西新聞社

HEY! YOU MADE ME SWALLOW MY GUM!!!

ポン

GOOD MORNING, YAMAOKA-SAN!!

ゴクン

WAIT A MINUTE, NO, IT'S NOT, THAT WAS REAL GUM!!!

IT'S TOTALLY COOL TO MUNCH IT!

ISN'T GUM MADE FROM WHEAT GLUTEN?

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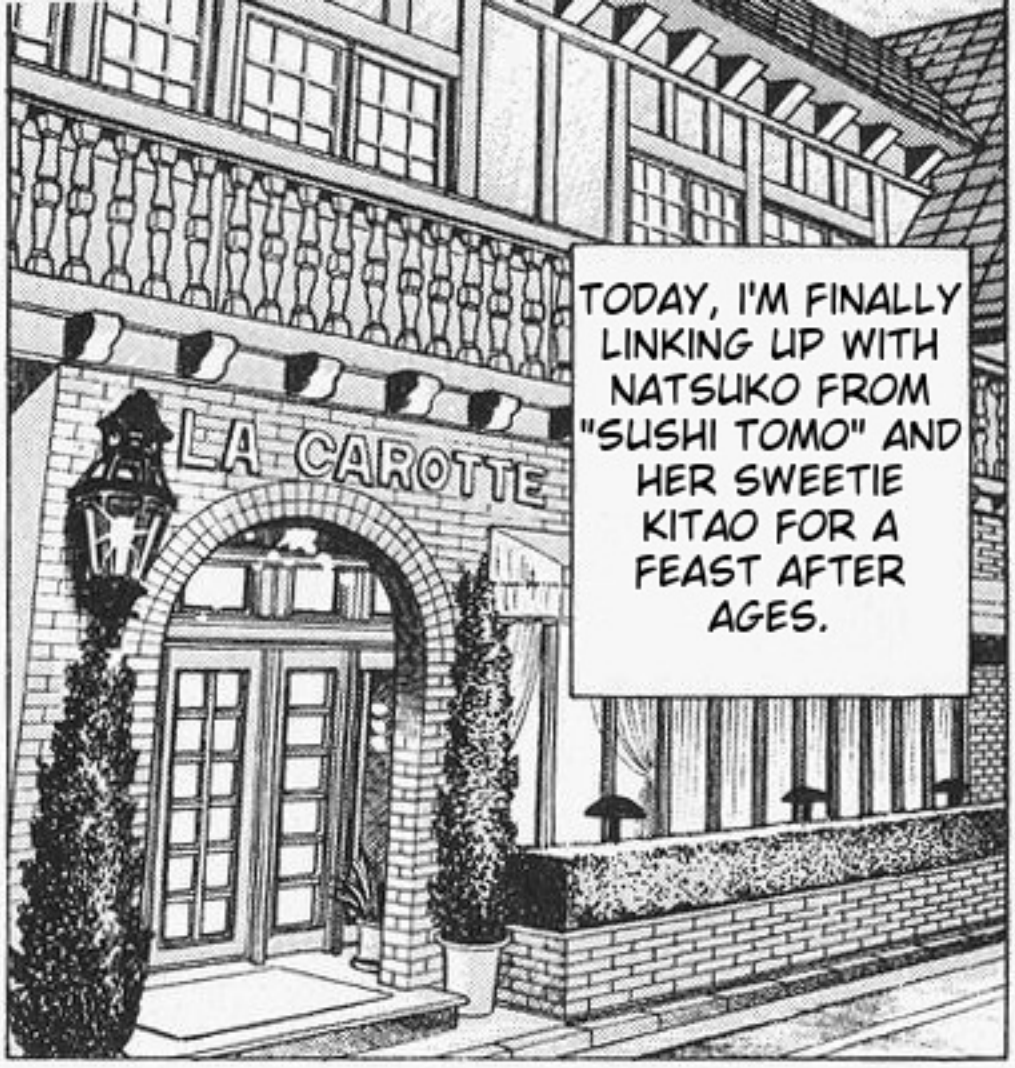
AH, YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT!

第4話
贅沢な献立


LA CAROTTE
TODAY, I'M FINALLY LINKING UP WITH NATSUKO FROM "SUSHI TOMO" AND HER SWEETIE KITAO FOR A FEAST AFTER AGES.

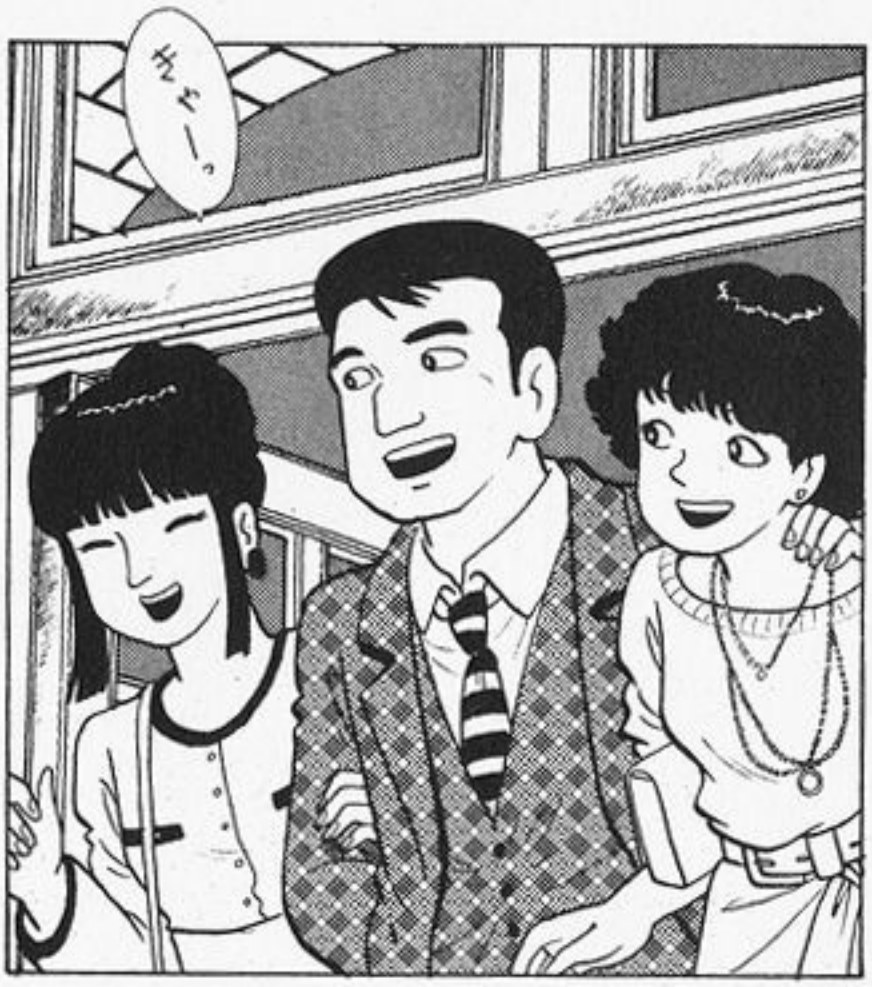
BUT WITH JAPANESE EATS, I CAN'T HELP BUT COMPARE IT TO MY WORK AND KICK BACK EASY - NO WAY!
SO, NATSUKO'S TOTALLY HOOKED ON FRENCH CUISINE, HUH?

2

HEY, DIDN'T THAT IDEA SPARK WHILE YOU WERE CHOWING DOWN ON FRENCH GRUB?
LATELY, I'VE BEEN JAZZING UP GUNKAN ROLLS WITH CAVIAR SWAPPING IN FOR IKURA,
WHOA! CAVIAR-TOPPED SUSHI! TALK ABOUT PURE LUXURY!

THAT'S WHERE FRENCH CUISINE ROCKS - IT LETS ME CHILL OUT FAR FROM MY DAILY GRIND...

THAT DOESN'T CLICK WITH ME AT ALL.


ねぇー♪

EVEN WHILE SAVORING FRENCH CUISINE, I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK ABOUT SUSHI...

AH, THIS IS WHAT THEY CALL BEING STINGY—HOW EMBARRASSING...

YES, MASTER ASHIDA, WE'VE BEEN EAGERLY AWAITING YOUR ARRIVAL.
GOT A SEAT, RIGHT?

NOT AT ALL!
DO YOU COME TO THIS PLACE OFTEN?
FOR A LOWLY SALARYMAN LIKE ME, THAT DREAM IS OUT OF REACH! TODAY'S MY FIRST TIME!

IS THAT YOU, ASHIDA? LONG TIME NO SEE!

IS THAT YOU, KITAO?

I'M NOT TOUCHING ANY RESTAURANT GARBAGE!

IT'S MY OLD MAN' RUNNING THE JOINT!

EVENING!

ASHIDA YASUTAKA WE USED TO SLING GRUB IN AKASAKA.

THIS GUY'S MY HIGH SCHOOL PAL,

WHAT THE HECK? YOU'RE BAILING ON INHERITING THE SHOP?!

BUZZ OFF ALREADY!

ASHIDA, WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL HERE?!

GOING IT ALONE IS TOTAL NONSENSE!

HMPH, RESTAURANTS ARE JUST SPOTS TO CHOW DOWN AS A PAYING CUSTOMER, DAMMIT!

4

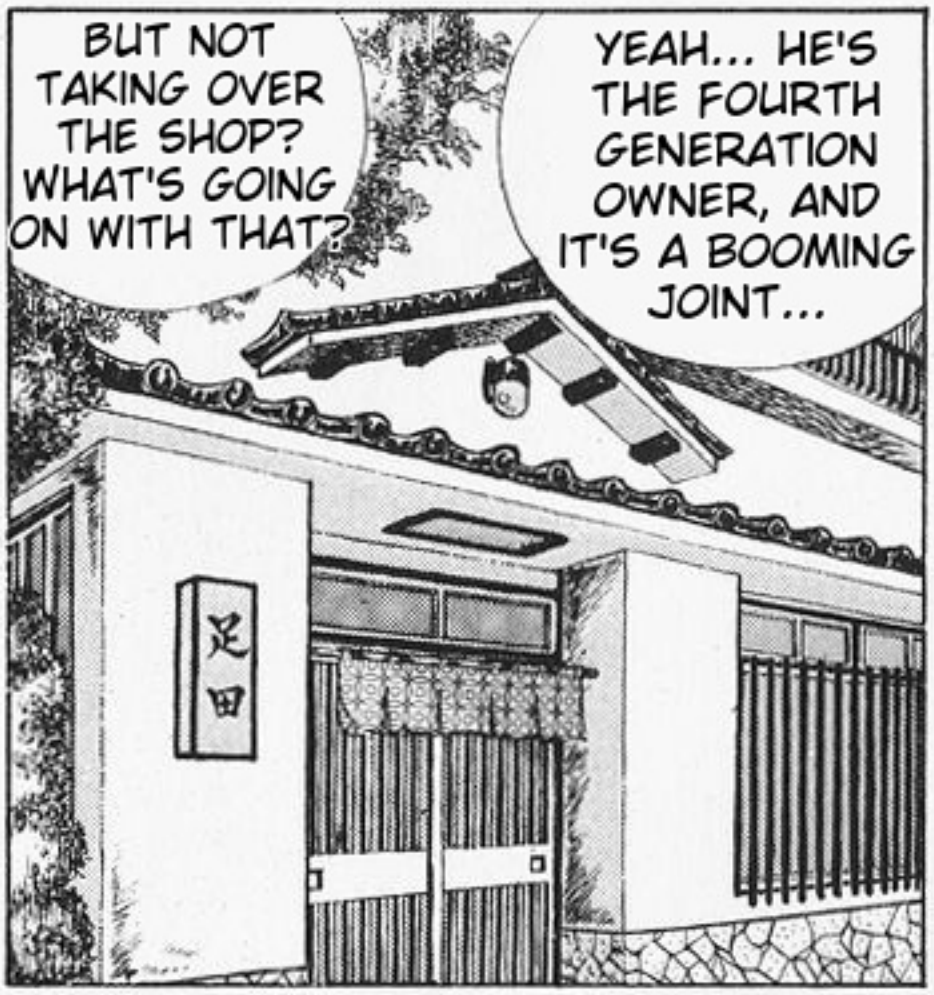
BET YOU'RE NOT ORDERING ANY FANCY-SCHMANCY WINE ANYWAY!

FORGET THAT JAZZ, WE'RE FINALLY CROSSING PATHS, SO I'LL HOOK YOU UP WITH SOME VINO LATER!

WELL...

NOBUKO'S SWINGING BY HERE LATER.

HOW'S NOBUKO HOLDING UP?


BUT NOT TAKING OVER THE SHOP? WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THAT?
YEAH... HE'S THE FOURTH GENERATION OWNER, AND IT'S A BOOMING JOINT...
足田

NAH, SORRY, HE WASN'T THAT KIND OF GUY BEFORE...
WELL, THIS IS THE GREETING, HUH...?

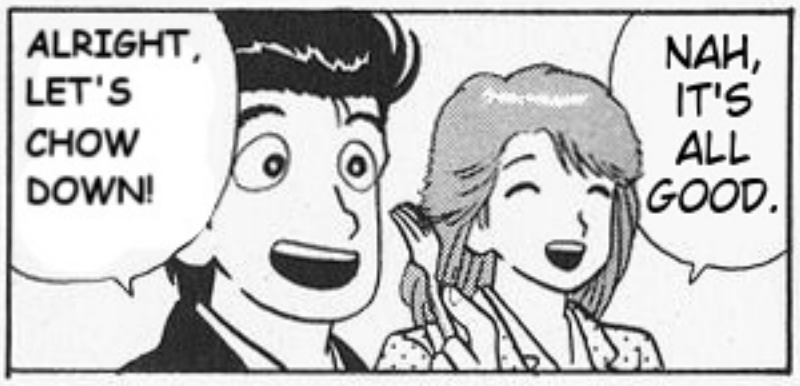
IS HE IN THE RESTAURANT BIZ?

WHO CARES ABOUT HIM ANYWAY?

FROM MASTER ASHIDA TO EVERYONE, A FABULOUS WINE GIFT!
PARDON MY INTRUSION.

SORRY, I WENT AND WRECKED THE VIBE WITH THIS LAME STUFF...

5


ALRIGHT, LET'S CHOW DOWN!
NAH, IT'S ALL GOOD.

WAIT, THAT RINGS A BELL... IS IT SOME MEGA-AWESOME WINE?

HOLY CRAP! ROMANÉE-CONTI!!

THIS IS THE LEGENDARY 1978 ROMANÉE-CONTI, FOLKS!

AND 1978 WAS THE ABSOLUTE BEST VINTAGE IN AGES.

WHOA, IT'S NOT JUST AMAZING— IT'S THE STRAIGHT-UP KING OF WINES, BABY!

JUST FOR ONE BOTTLE?!

200,000 YEN?!

IN A JAPANESE RESTAURANT, THAT BOTTLE'D COST YOU 200,000 YEN EASY...

THAT'S GOTTA BE INSANELY PRICEY, RIGHT?

6

YOU'D NEVER GET TO SIP THIS —SAVOR EVERY DROP, PAL!

JUST THINK, IF I HADN'T BEEN SO SUCCESSFUL,

SO, WHADDYA THINK? YOU LOVING THIS WINE OR WHAT?

DELICIOUS!

HEY, COME ON, SAVE THE LECTURE!

HMPH, THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.

THIS ISN'T A LECTURE; I'M GENUINELY WORRIED ABOUT YOU!

WORD ON THE STREET ISN'T TOO FLATTERING LATELY.

ASHIDA... EVEN THOUGH I'M GRATEFUL FOR THE FEAST, I CAN'T HELP BUT SAY THIS,

IT SEEMS YOU'RE QUITE THE BIG SPENDER THESE DAYS, HUH?

IF THERE'S ONE ADVANTAGE TO BEING THE SON OF A RESTAURANTER, IT'S THIS!

I'M GOING TO LIVE IT UP UNTIL I'VE DRAINED EVERY LAST YEN FROM MY STASH AT HOME!

I'VE GOT MORE THAN ENOUGH CASH.

WELL THEN, SEE YOU AROUND.

HMPH... AS IF YOU'D UNDERSTAND ANYTHING I SAY!

7

WHAT DO YOU MEAN... WHAT'S GOING ON?!

NOBUKO-
-SAN!

IT'S
BEEN
A
WHILE.

KITAO-
SAN!

YES...

DID
YOU
BRING
IT?

8

YOUR FAMILY'S RESTAURANT IS THRIVING, BUT THERE'S NO WAY YOU COULD EARN THIS KIND OF MONEY TO SPEND SO RECKLESSLY?!

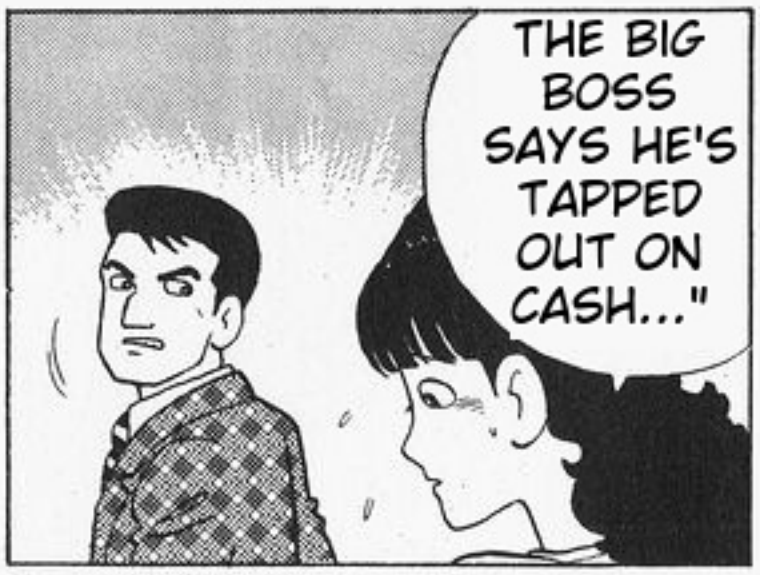
WHAT IN
THE
WORLD
HAPPENED,
ASHIDA?

MIND
YOUR OWN
BUSINESS!

THIS IS
JUST
POCKET
CHANGE!

ISN'T IT
QUITE A
SUM?

THE GOURMET
17



ASHIDA GOT TOTALLY SMITTEN WITH HER, AND BOOM– THEY WERE ENGAGED!

IT ALL STARTED WHEN "MIYAKAZU" SUPPLIED FISH, AND NOBUKO JOINED ASHIDA'S SHOP TO LEARN THE ROPES, BUT...

NOBUKO'S THE DAUGHTER OF "MIYAKAZU," THAT BUZZING FRESH FISH WHOLESALER IN TSUKIJI...

WELL... WITH NOBUKO AROUND LIKE THAT, HOW COULD ASHIDA PULL SUCH A STUNT?!

ASHIDA'S OLD MAN HAS TOTALLY FALLEN FOR NOBUKO AND NOW SPOILS HER MORE THAN HIS OWN FLESH AND BLOOD!

10

WHEN I FOUND OUT, MY HEART WAS PRACTICALLY EXPLODING WITH SHOCK!

YOU CAN'T SLAP CHAINS ON A HUMAN HEART, NO MATTER WHAT...

HE WENT AND FELL HEAD OVER HEELS FOR SOME MYSTERY WOMAN!

THE YOUNG BOSS LAST YEAR,

HUH? NO WAY, THAT'S INSANE...?! DID HE REALLY BETRAY NOBUKO?!

DELICIOUS!

THEN, OUT OF THE BLUE THIS YEAR, THAT WOMAN MARRIED ANOTHER MAN.

I WAS AT A LOSS FOR WORDS ON HOW TO APPROACH THE ESTEEMED MASTER WHO HAS SHOWN ME SUCH KINDNESS, AND WHILE I PONDERED, TIME SLIPPED AWAY...

I MADE UP MY MIND TO STEP BACK, BUT,

IT WAS FROM THAT MOMENT THAT THE YOUNG MASTER BEGAN TO SPEND MONEY LIKE A MADMAN, CLEARLY OUT OF HIS MIND.

RIGHT AFTER THAT, THE ASHIDA FAMILY SOLD THEIR LAND IN SHINTOMICHO TO A LAND DEVELOPER, BRINGING IN A STAGGERING FORTUNE IN THE BILLIONS.

OH REALLY... SO SHE JUST DUMPED ASHIDA?

11

AND TO TOP IT ALL OFF, AFTER GETTING REJECTED, HE JUST INDULGES IN RECKLESS DEBAUCHERY—WHAT A DESPICABLE MAN!!

DESPITE HAVING A WONDERFUL FIANCÉE NAMED NOBUKO, HE FELL FOR ANOTHER WOMAN,

THAT GUY SHOULD JUST GO BROKE AND CRASH AND BURN, FOR ALL I CARE!!

"THE YOUNG MASTER'S TOTALLY SICK RIGHT NOW, THAT'S NOT THE REAL HIM AT ALL! DON'T YOU DARE DITCH HIM...

HE'S JUST GOING THROUGH SOM ISSUES RIGHT NOW...

PLEASE DON'T SPOUT THAT NONSENSE... PLEASE, YOU'VE GOTTA SWOOP IN AND SAVE THE YOUNG MASTER!

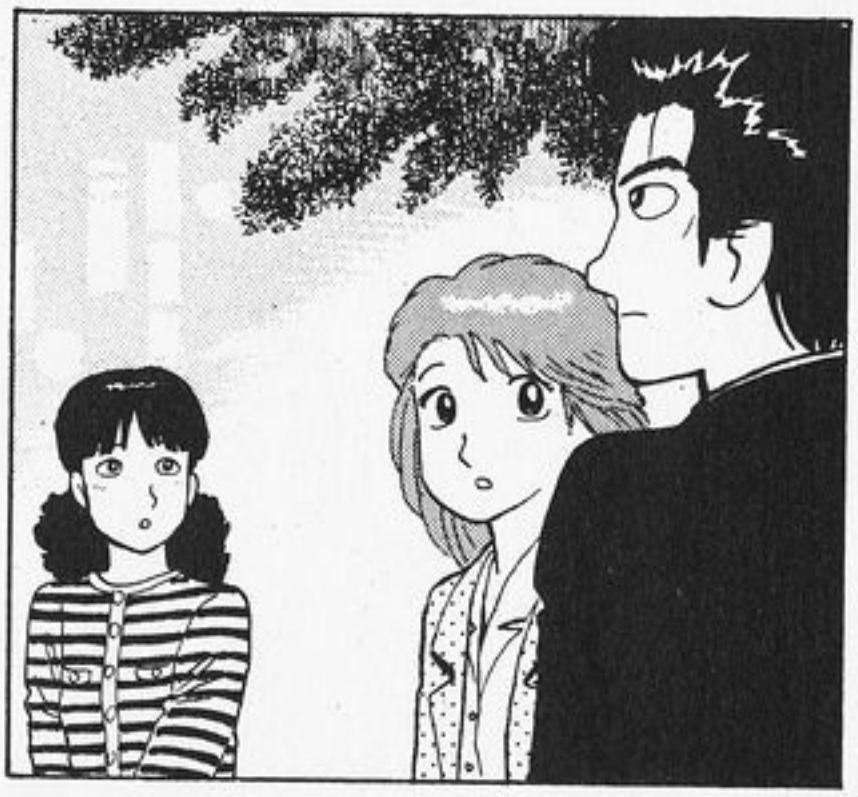
PLEASE, MR. KITAO...

JUST HOW MUCH OF A TOTAL SOFTIE ARE YOU?

NOBOKU-SAN

HUH?

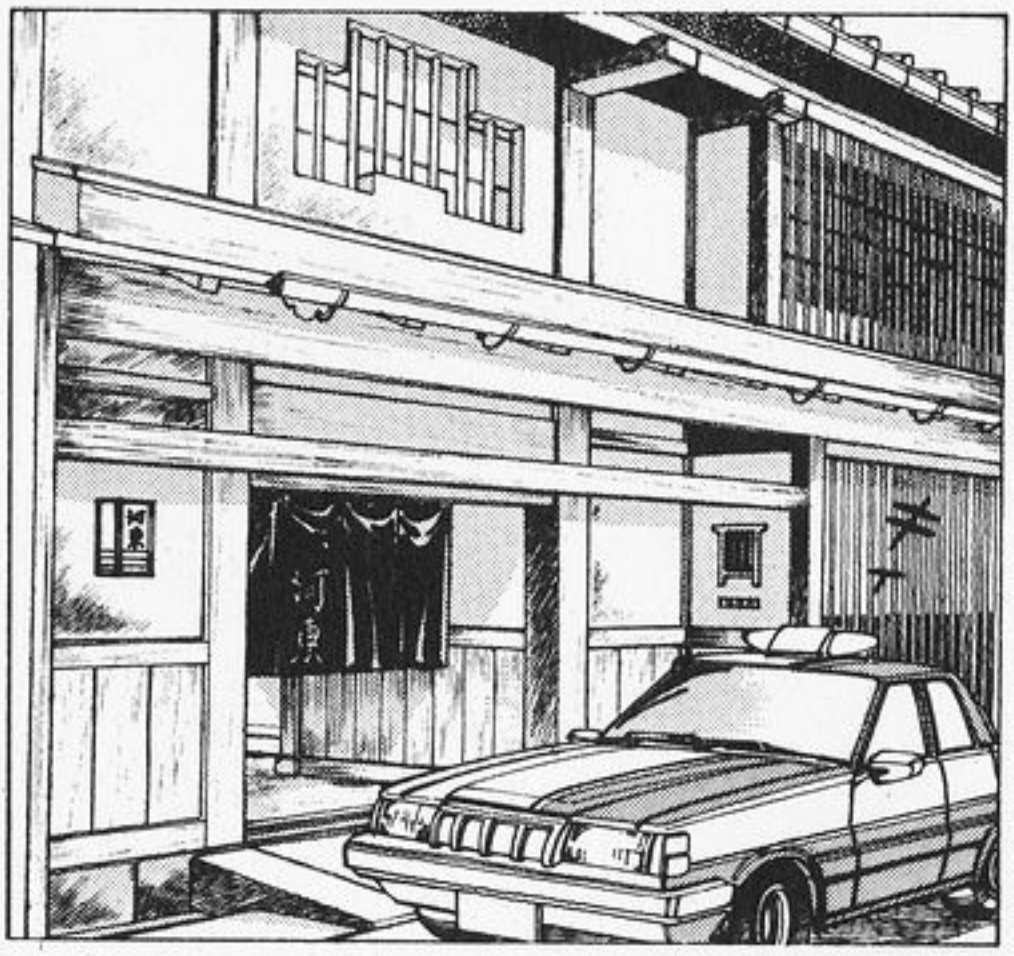
I DON'T BUY THAT MR. ASHIDA FLIPPED OUT JUST 'CAUSE HE GOT DUMPED BY THAT GIRL- THERE'S MORE TO IT!

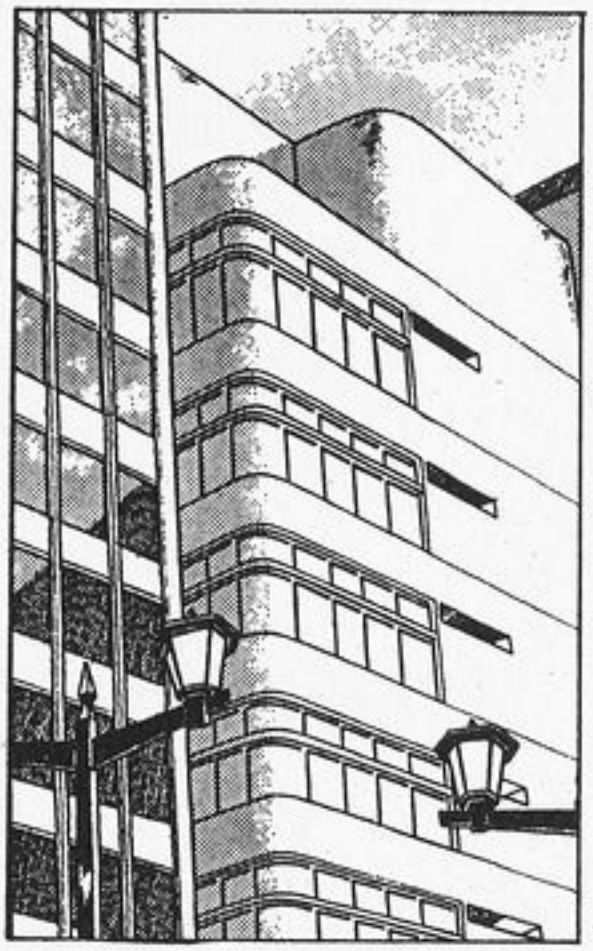


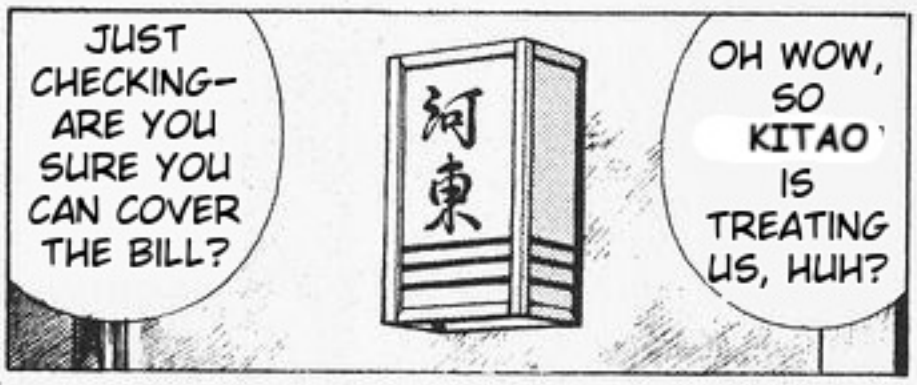
"WHY'S HE SO OBSESSED WITH ALL THAT LAVISH BLING...? AND GET THIS, CLAIMING HIS WILD SPENDING IS REVENGE ON BEING BORN A RESTAURANT HEIR'S KID...

SOMETHING ABOUT THIS WHOLE THING DOESN'T SIT RIGHT...

THIS HERE'S GOT SOME DEEPER, JUICIER TWIST TO IT, Y'KNOW...






JUST CHECKING- ARE YOU SURE YOU CAN COVER THE BILL?
河東
OH WOW, SO KITAO IS TREATING US, HUH?

13

I JUST WANTED TO RETURN THE FAVOR FOR THAT WINE WE HAD THE OTHER DAY, YOU KNOW!

STOP ACTING LIKE AN ASSHOLE!
河東

WITH BROKE LOSERS LIKE YOU, EVEN IF YOU OFFER A FEAST, IT'S BOUND TO BE NOTHING SPECIAL!
DON'T OVERDO IT, ALRIGHT?

IF IT TICKLES YOUR TASTE BUDS, YOUNG MASTER, WE'LL BE THRILLED TO BITS.

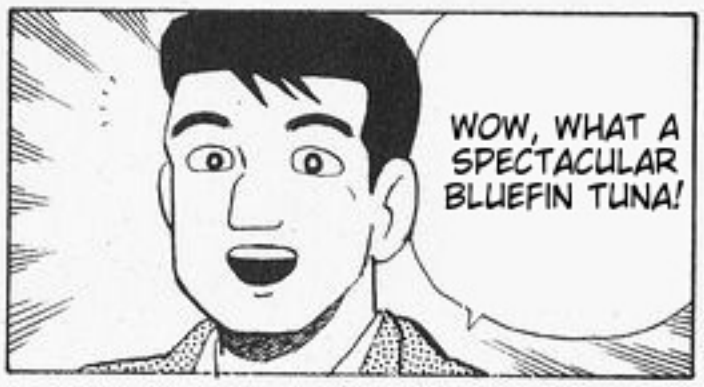
TODAY, WE'VE WHIPPED UP THE FANCIEST FEAST IMAGINABLE...

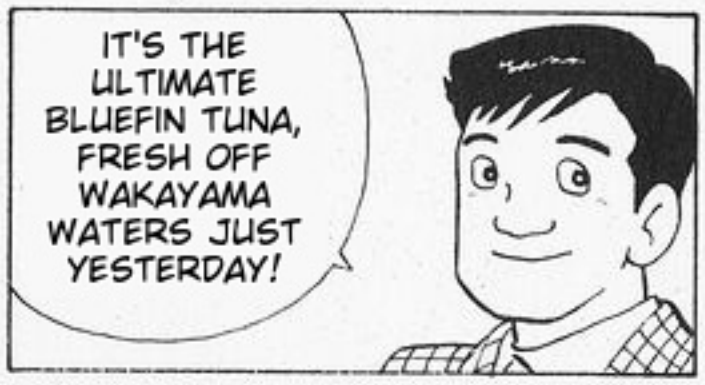
LET'S KICK THIS OFF ALREADY!

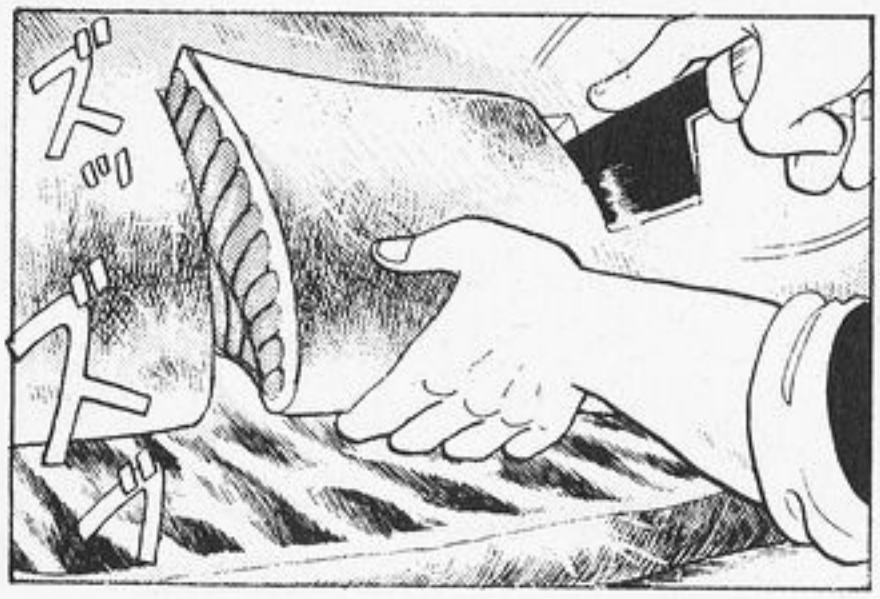
HMPH, SKIP THE POMP AND BLUSTER!

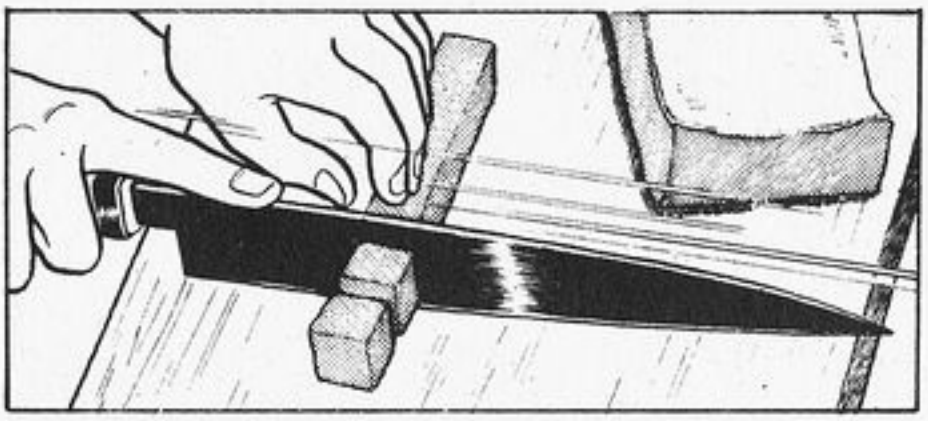
WELL THEN.

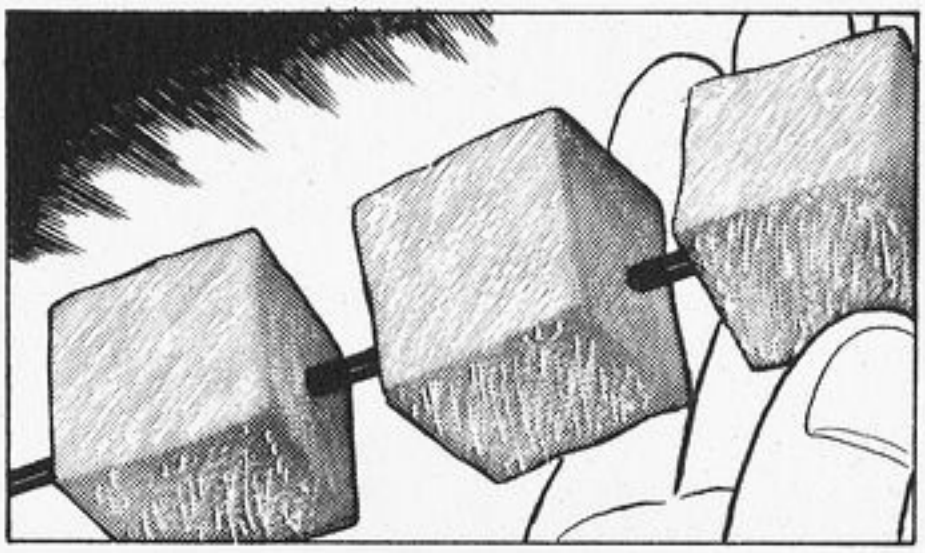
THE GOURMET
17



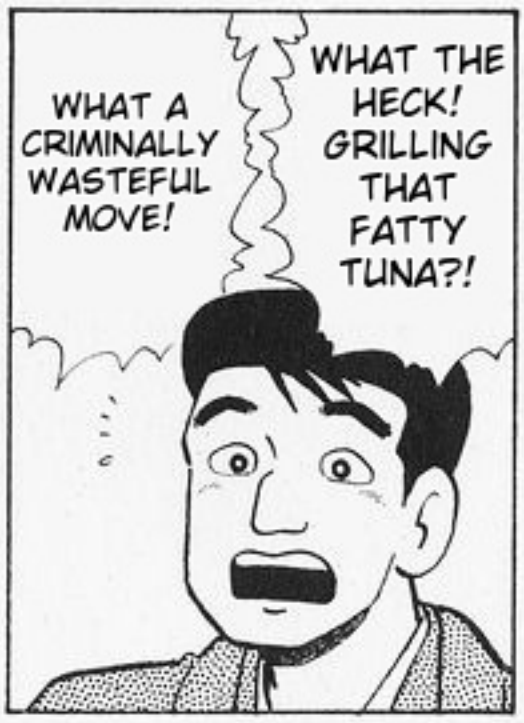


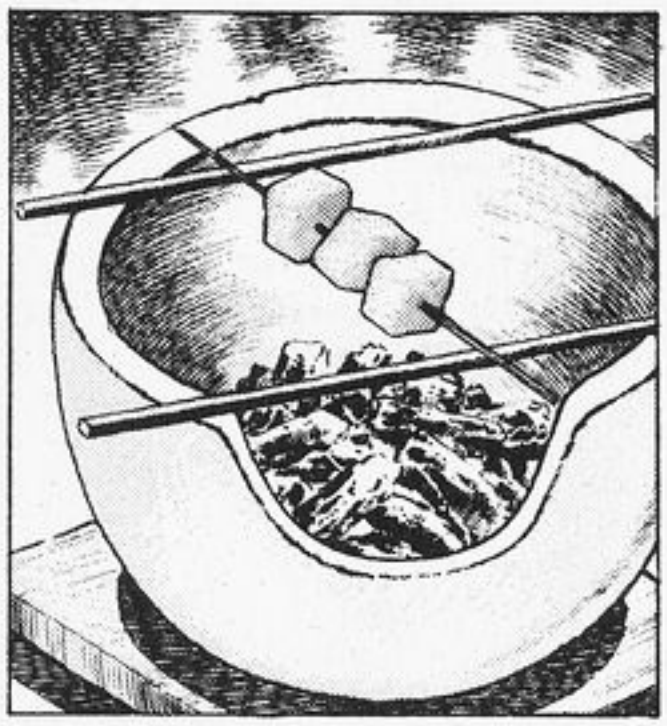






WELL, IT'S A DELUXE TREAT, BUT IT DOESN'T SCREAM TOTAL EXTRAVAGANCE!
HMM, FATTY TUNA SASHIMI, EH...


WHAT A CRIMINALLY WASTEFUL MOVE!
WHAT THE HECK! GRILLING THAT FATTY TUNA?!



16

THE ULTIMATE FATTY TUNA, SKEWERED AND HIT WITH JUST SALT...

THE GOURMET
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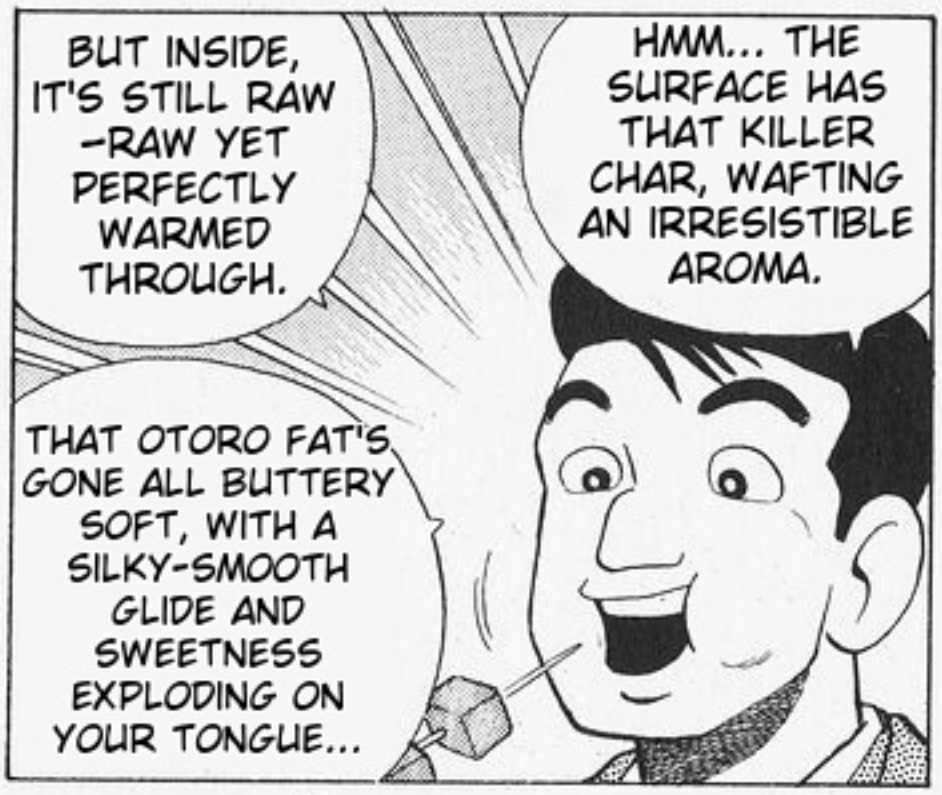

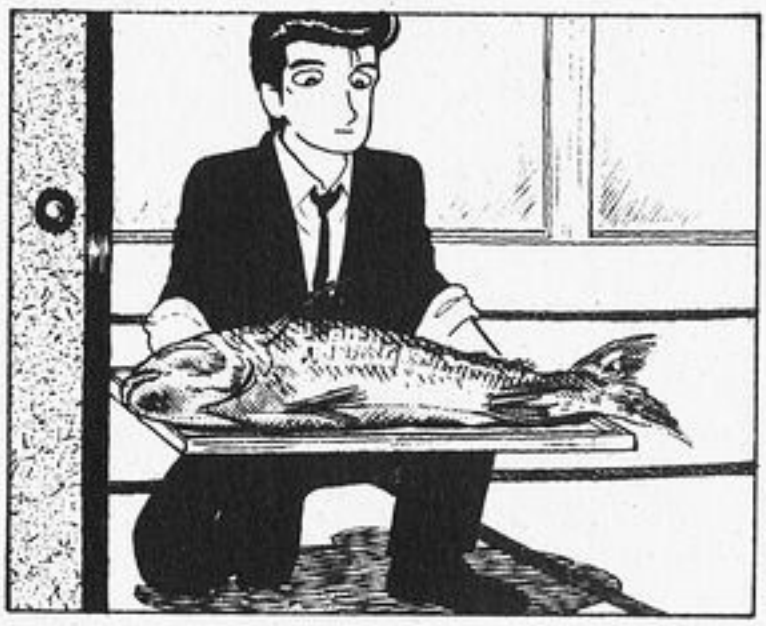

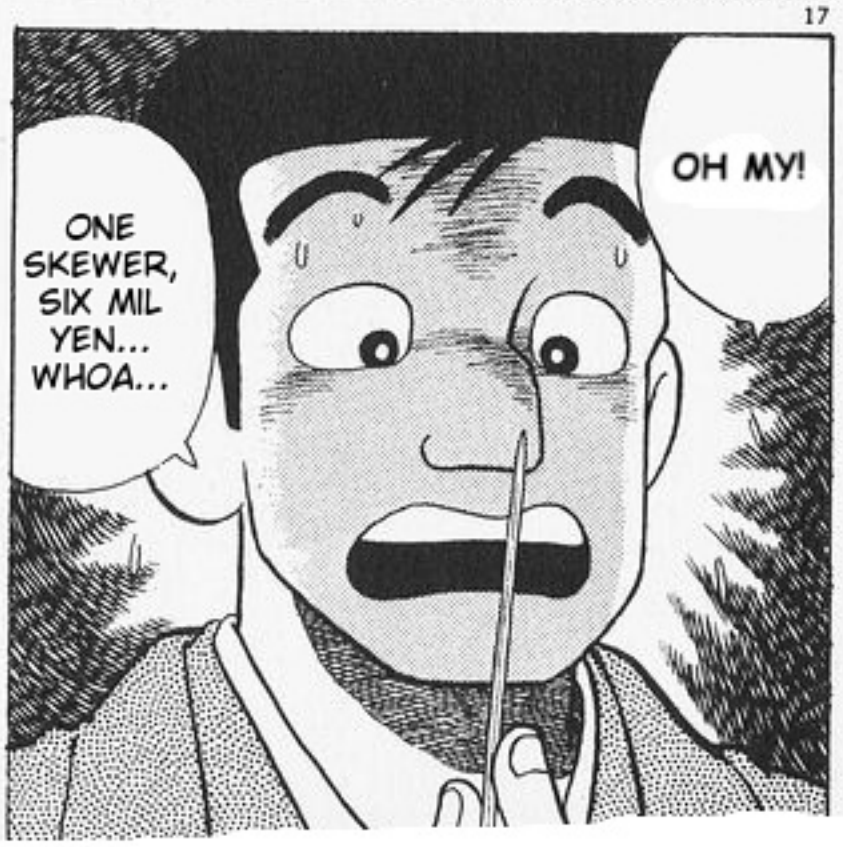

WOW, WHAT AN AMAZING BREAM!

THEY SAY IF YOU CAN CATCH ONE OR TWO A DAY, IT'S THE BEST SEA BREAM THERE IS!

THIS IS THE RED SEA BREAM CAUGHT IN IWAYA, AWAJI ISLAND.

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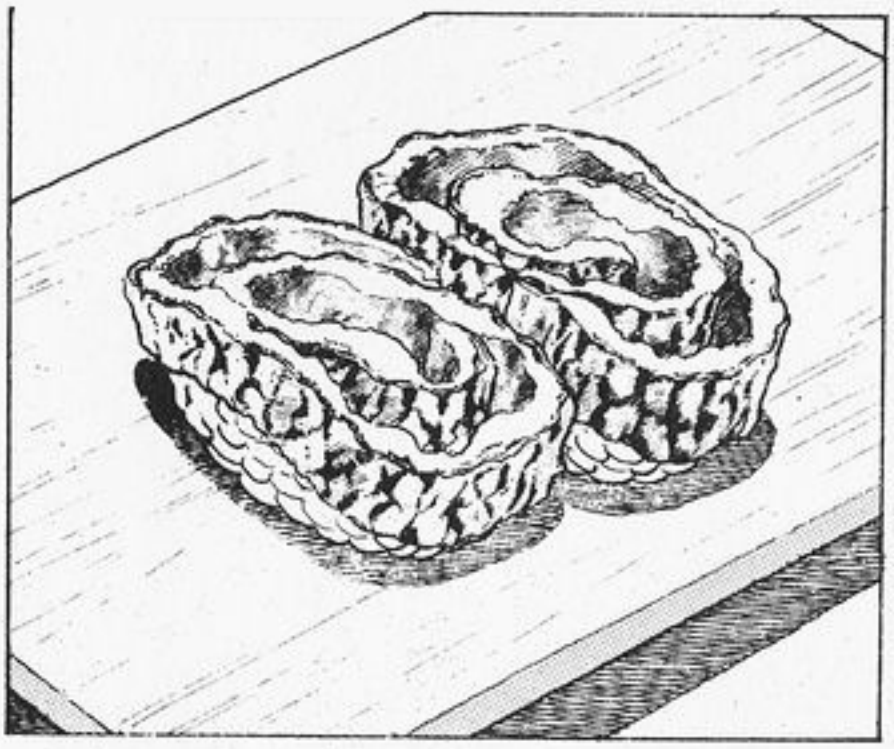
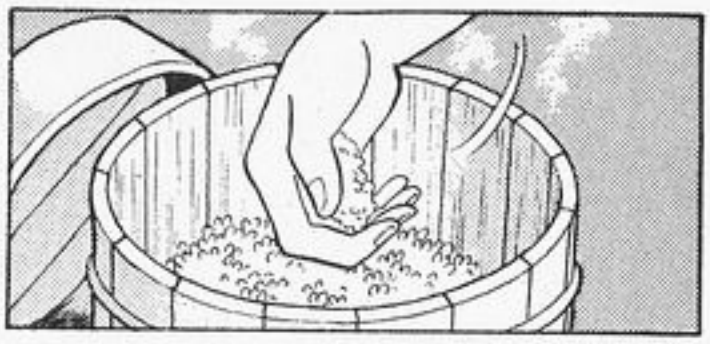
18

YES.

PLEASE, NATSUKO-SAN!

DELICIOUS!





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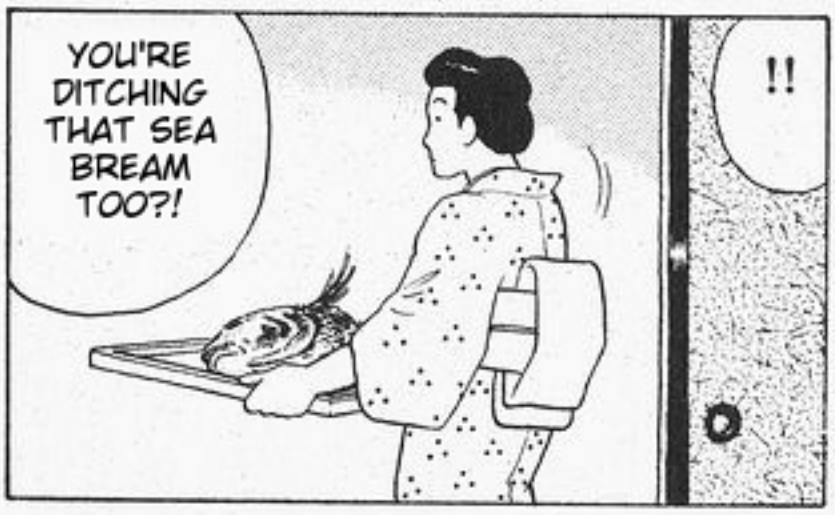
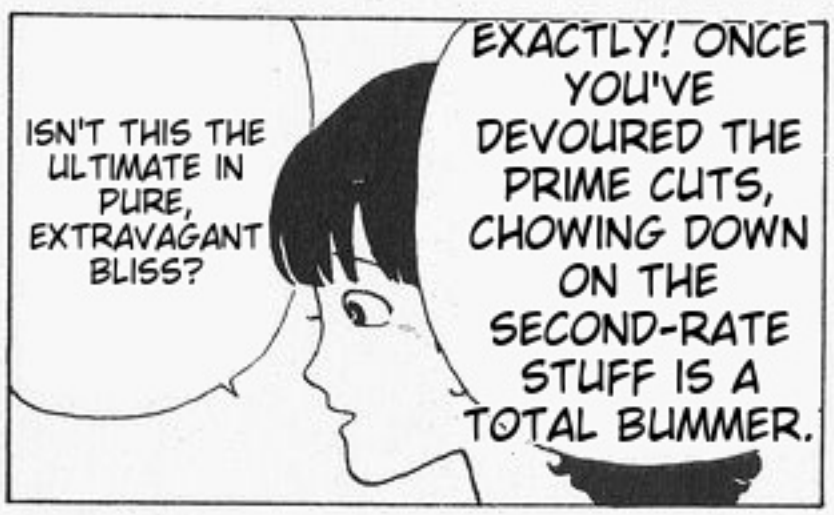
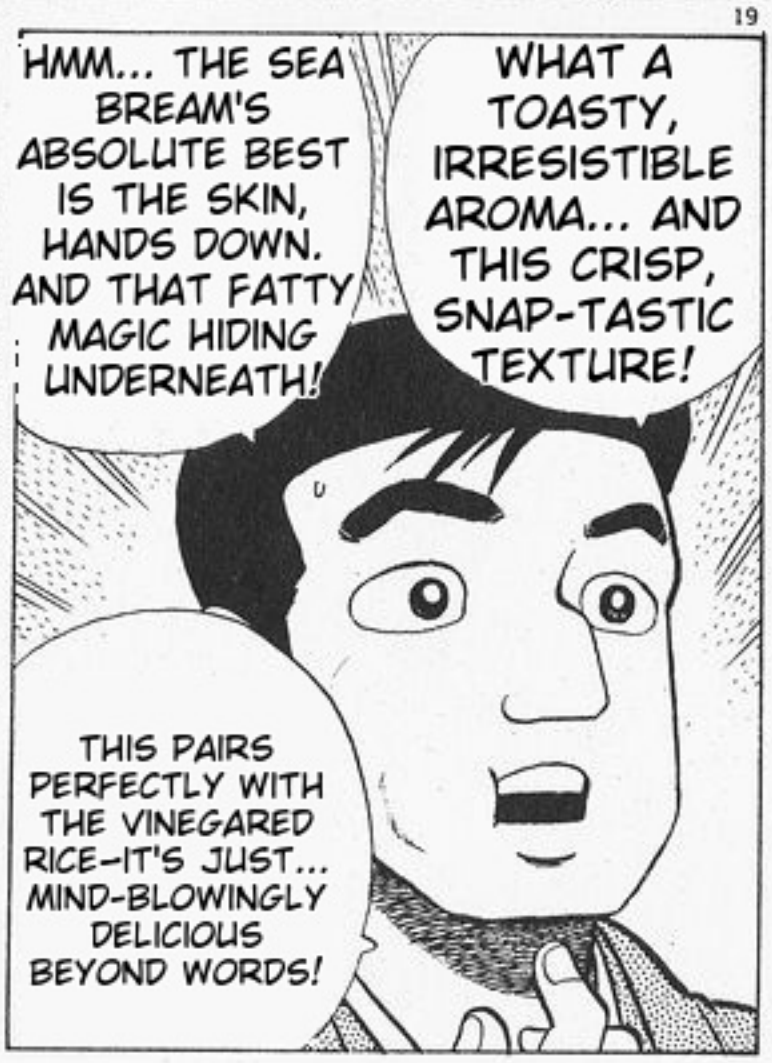
GO FOR IT!


YOU'RE DITCHING THAT SEA BREAM TOO?!
!!


ISN'T THIS THE ULTIMATE IN PURE, EXTRAVAGANT BLISS?
EXACTLY! ONCE YOU'VE DEVOURED THE PRIME CUTS, CHOWING DOWN ON THE SECOND-RATE STUFF IS A TOTAL BUMMER.


HMM... THE SEA BREAM'S ABSOLUTE BEST IS THE SKIN, HANDS DOWN. AND THAT FATTY MAGIC HIDING UNDERNEATH!
WHAT A TOASTY, IRRESISTIBLE AROMA... AND THIS CRISP, SNAP-TASTIC TEXTURE!
THIS PAIRS PERFECTLY WITH THE VINEGARED RICE—IT'S JUST... MIND-BLOWINGLY DELICIOUS BEYOND WORDS!

NOBUKO! I'M PLEADING, DON'T TOSS THAT TUNA AND SEA BREAM!!

AW, SHOOT! I'M DONE FOR -IT'S MY LOSS...

GRR... GRR... GRR...

ASHIDA...

AS IF I'D LET THAT GO TO WASTE!

WITH THAT TUNA AND SEA BREAM, I COULD WHIP UP SOME EPIC FEASTS YET...

MAN, THIS IS THE ULTIMATE SPLURGE, AND SPLURGING IS AN ABSOLUTE THRILL!

YOUNG BOSS!

BUT HECK, I'M A CHEF TO THE CORE! THERE'S NO WAY I'D DITCH THAT TUNA AND SEA BREAM!!

20

I TOTALLY LOST MY WAY, MAN...

.....

YOU'RE A DIE-HARD CHEF THROUGH AND THROUGH, HUH.

ASHIDA-SAN.

I CRAVE A LIFE THAT'S WILDLY MORE LAVISH, YOU GET ME...

SHE LAID IT ON ME STRAIGHT: "THE HIGH LIFE AS A CHEF'S WIFE? IT'S ALL SMALL POTATOES, BUDDY.

BUT OUTTA NOWHERE, THAT GAL UP AND WED SOME OTHER DUDE- THE SON OF A SLICK LAND-GRABBING TYCOON'S BOSS!

LAST YEAR, ONE FIERY BABE TOTALLY HIJACKED MY HEART...

YET THAT WHOLE DEAL WASN'T WORTH SQUAT, JUST A TINY SCRAP OF LAND LIKE A CAT'S FOREHEAD...

I HURLED MYSELF INTO COOKING BOOT CAMP LIKE A MANIAC JUST TO THRILL THAT WOMAN. THE INSANE GRIND I ENDURED TO NAIL THOSE SKILLS...

21

WITH THE DOUGH FROM MY OLD MAN'S LAND FLIP, I DREAMED OF SPLURGING TILL I DROPPED DEAD...

MAN, PONDERING THAT, I FEEL LIKE A TOTAL CHUMP AS A CHEF, IT'S JUST PLAIN PATHETIC...

NOBUKO... HOW COULD YOU SPLASH OUT MILLIONS LIKE THAT?!

IF I CAN'T TIE THE KNOT WITH THE YOUNG MASTER ANYWAY, WHAT'S THE POINT OF HANGING ON...

I SNAGGED THE CASH DAD STASHED FOR MY WEDDING AND BLEW IT ALL WILD!

ALL FOR ONE BURNING DESIRE: TO LET YOU SAVOR THIS DISH...

MR. ASHIDA... TO SNAG THIS TUNA AND SEA BREAM, NOBUKO PAWNED HER WHOLE FORTUNE!

ASHIDA!

I'LL WHIP UP A DISH THAT'LL STEAL YOUR HEART AWAY, YOU BET!

NOBUKO, I'M REINVENTING MYSELF AS A CHEF FROM THE GROUND UP!

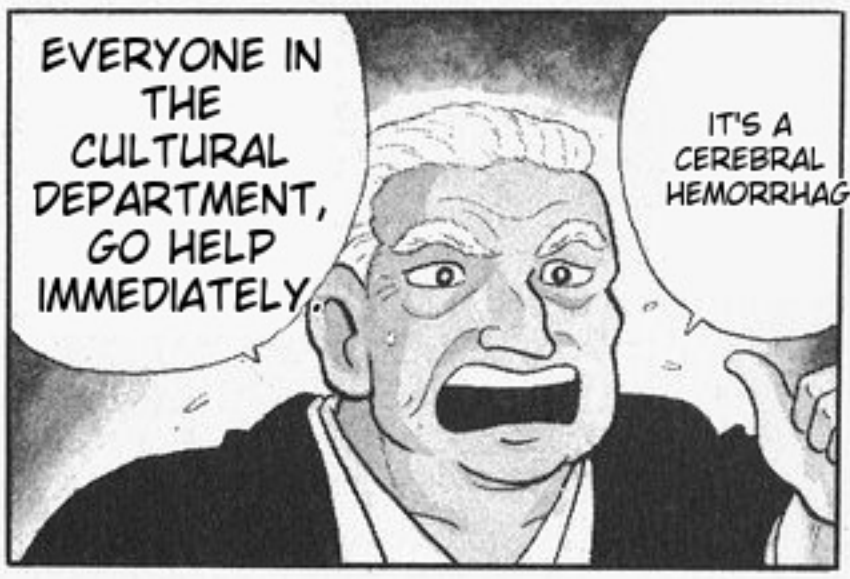
22

THE GOURMET
17

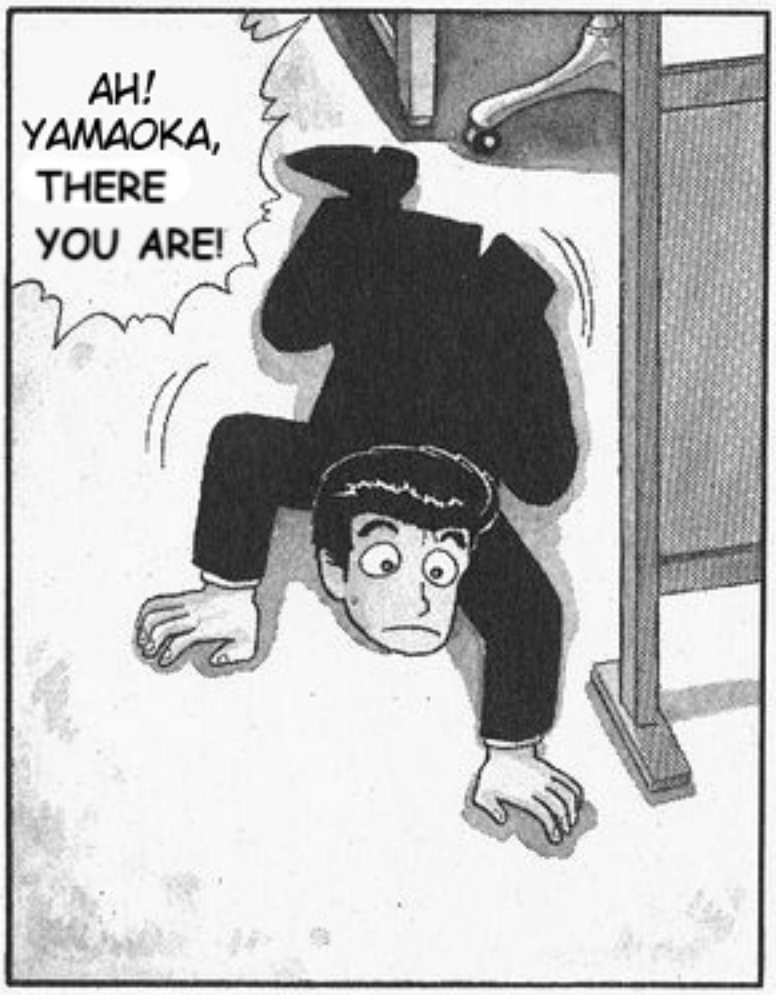
第5話

海のマツタケご飯

PROFESSOR KIYOTANI GINKO HAS COLLAPSED!
THIS IS TERRIBLE!


EVERYONE IN THE CULTURAL DEPARTMENT, GO HELP IMMEDIATELY.
IT'S A CEREBRAL HEMORRHAGE.

WHAT DID YOU SAY?!


AH! YAMAOKA, THERE YOU ARE!

UNDERSTOOD... KURITA-KUN!
YAMAOKA-KUN... YAMAOKA!

HE WAS JUST AT HIS DESK...
...HUH?

OUR CULTURE SECTION IS ESPECIALLY INDEBTED TO HIM.

HE'S HELPED WITH OUR ART EXHIBITIONS AND DRAWN FOR OUR NEW YEAR'S SPECIAL ISSUE.

KIYOTANI GINKO-SENSEI IS A LEADING FIGURE IN JAPANESE PAINTING...

YOU... YOU...

HOW IS GINKO'S CONDITION?!

MADAM!

バッ

IN SURGERY

3

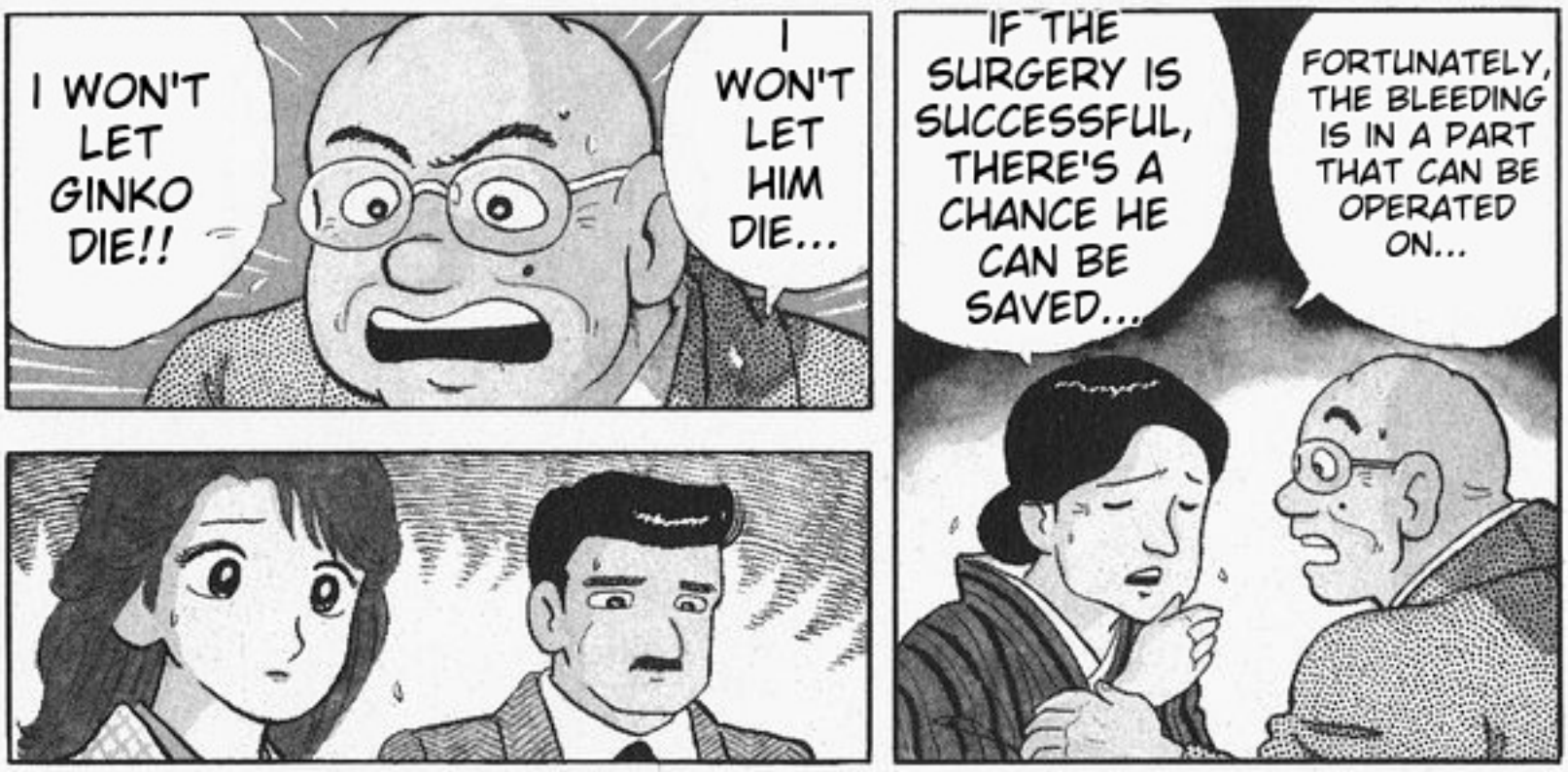
OH, THE TOZAI NEWSPAPER PEOPLE ARE HERE!

I SEE, KYOGOKU-SAN WAS CLOSE TO KIYOTANI-SENSEI, WASN'T HE...

YOU'VE COME!

KYOGOKU-SAN,

OISHINBO 17


I WON'T LET GINKO DIE!!
I WON'T LET HIM DIE...
IF THE SURGERY IS SUCCESSFUL, THERE'S A CHANCE HE CAN BE SAVED...
FORTUNATELY, THE BLEEDING IS IN A PART THAT CAN BE OPERATED ON...

PERHAPS BECAUSE WE HAD SO MUCH IN COMMON, WE BECAME FAST FRIENDS.
GINKO AND I WERE BOTH FROM POOR FAMILIES AND CLOSE IN AGE,

THE OWNER WAS FOND OF ART, AND THE PAINTER SUIGEN TEN'EN OFTEN CAME BY, AND GINKO, HIS APPRENTICE, WOULD ACCOMPANY HIM, AND THAT'S HOW WE MET...
I MET GINKO WHEN I WAS WORKING AS A MENIAL AT A RICE WHOLESALER...

GINKO SAID, 'HMPH, I'M GOING TO BE THE WORLD'S GREATEST PAINTER, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO KEEP UP WITH ME!'
I SAID, 'I'M GOING TO BE THE GREATEST MERCHANT IN JAPAN, SO YOU BECOME THE GREATEST PAINTER!'
S-SO, IN THIS WAY, WE ENCOURAGED EACH OTHER...

IF HE GOES NOW, WHAT WAS THE POINT OF ALL THOSE YEARS OF STRUGGLE?

GINKO AND I WERE BOTH FINALLY AT A STAGE WHERE WE COULD ENJOY THE FRUITS OF OUR LABOR.

GINKO BECAME THE BEST PAINTER IN JAPAN. I ALSO BECAME A FULL-FLEDGED MERCHANT, IN MY OWN WAY.

IN SURGERY

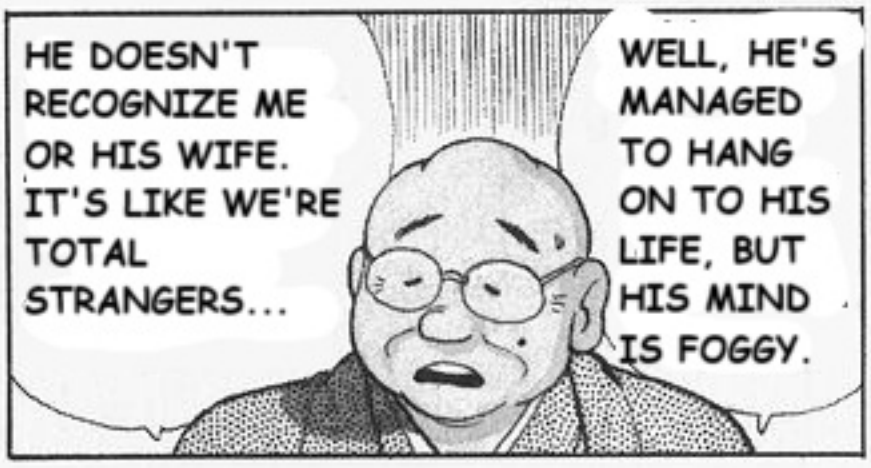
.....

5

MR. KIYOTANI HAS BEGUN HIS RECOVERY, AND SO WE RETURNED BACK TO WORK...

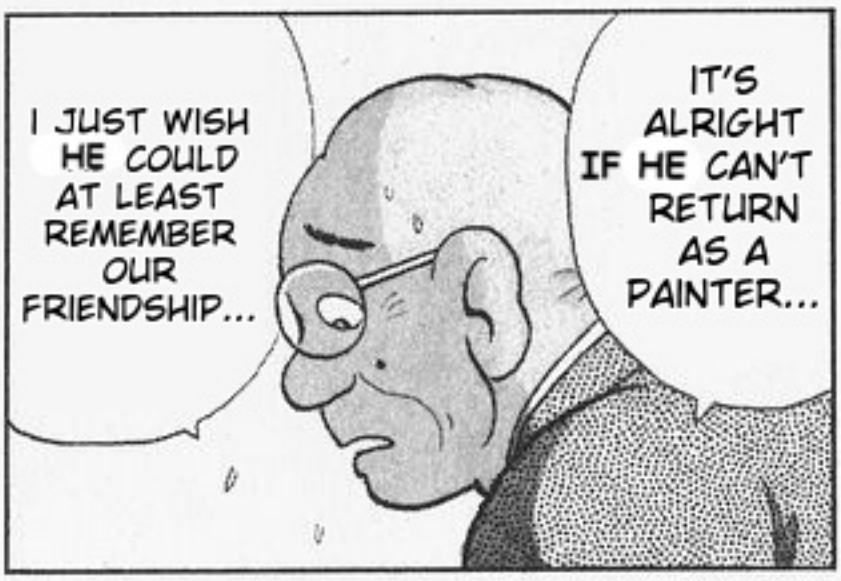
FORTUNATELY, THE SURGERY WAS SUCCESSFUL.

DELICIOUS!


HE DOESN'T RECOGNIZE ME OR HIS WIFE. IT'S LIKE WE'RE TOTAL STRANGERS...
WELL, HE'S MANAGED TO HANG ON TO HIS LIFE, BUT HIS MIND IS FOGGY.

OH MY...!

HOW IS MR. KIYOTANI'S RECOVERY GOING?


I JUST WISH HE COULD AT LEAST REMEMBER OUR FRIENDSHIP...
IT'S ALRIGHT IF HE CAN'T RETURN AS A PAINTER...

6

SEA MATSUTAKE RICE, YOU SAY?!
GINKO SAID, 'I WANT YOU TO FEED ME SEA MATSUTAKE RICE.'

THE DAY GINKO COLLAPSED, I WAS IN TOKYO BECAUSE HE CALLED FOR ME.
岡星

THE TOPIC OF 'SEA MATSUTAKE RICE' CAME UP BECAUSE OF GINKO'S COMPETITIVE SPIRIT...

GINKO SAID HE'D BE THE BEST PAINTER NOT JUST IN JAPAN, BUT IN THE WORLD, SO HE WAS A VERY AMBITIOUS MAN, AND HE ABSOLUTELY HATED TO LOSE TO ANYONE.

YAMAOKA-SAN, WHAT WAS HE TALKING ABOUT WITH 'SEA MATSUTAKE RICE'?

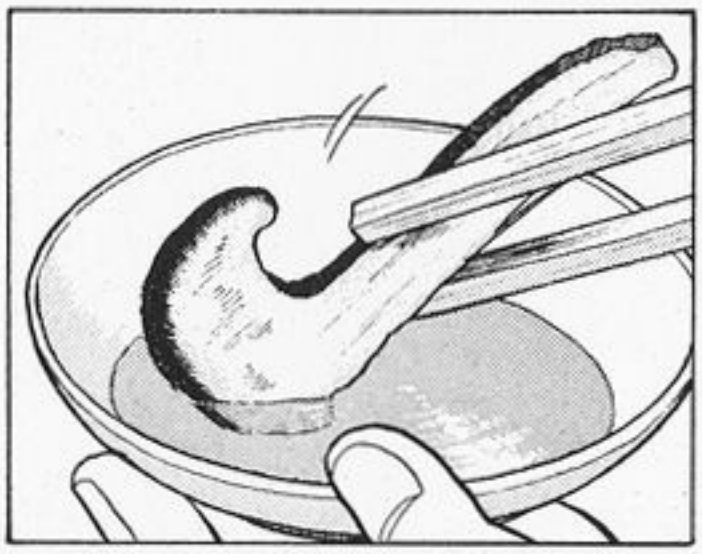
NOW, WHAT COULD HE BE TALKING ABOUT...?

HUH?! I DON'T KNOW...

I THOUGHT I'D TREAT HIM TO SOME MATSUTAKE MUSHROOMS...

THAT WAS LAST FALL. I TOOK GINKO TO MY MOUNTAIN IN TANBA.

OISHINBO



THIS WHOLE MOUNTAIN BELONGS TO ME, YOU SEE!
COME, COME, EAT AS MUCH AS YOU LIKE!

MMM...
ズズズ

RIGHT, DEAR!
MMM, DELICIOUS... SUCH A WONDERFUL AROMA, IT LIFTS MY SPIRITS! AND THAT FRESH, CRISP TEXTURE!

OH, HERE IT COMES, THE MATSUTAKE RICE!

IT GAINS A DELIGHTFUL BOUNCE AND TENDERNESS!

OH MY! NOT ONLY IS THE FRAGRANCE DIVINE, BUT WHEN YOU COOK IT WITH RICE, THE MATSUTAKE'S FLAVOR BECOMES EVEN MORE EXTRAORDINARY!

I HATE TO SAY IT MYSELF, BUT THIS IS THE FINEST MATSUTAKE IN THE WORLD!

ONLY THROUGH CAREFUL NURTURING IN THE PINE FORESTS, WITH TRUE DEDICATION, CAN SUCH MAGNIFICENT MATSUTAKE GROW.

HONESTLY, THERE'S NO GREATER LUXURY THAN THIS!

FRESHLY HARVESTED MATSUTAKE IS IN A LEAGUE OF ITS OWN— ITS TASTE AND AROMA ARE SIMPLY OUT OF THIS WORLD!

WITHOUT A DOUBT, WHEN IT COMES TO MATSUTAKE, NOTHING BEATS THE ONES FROM TANBA!

WAHHAHAHAHA!

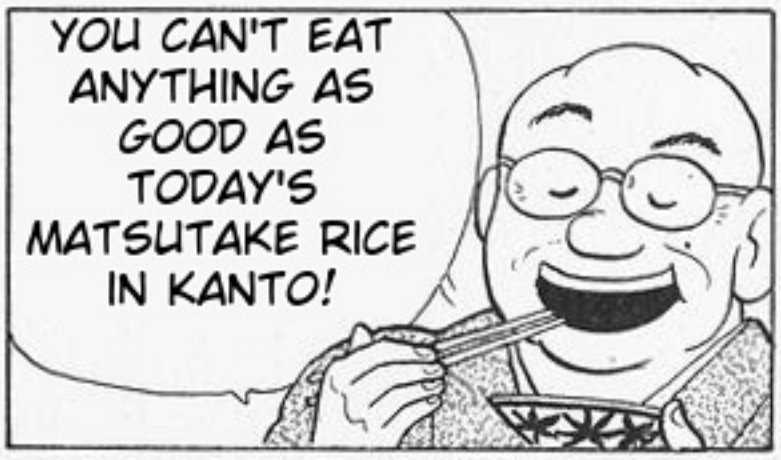
9

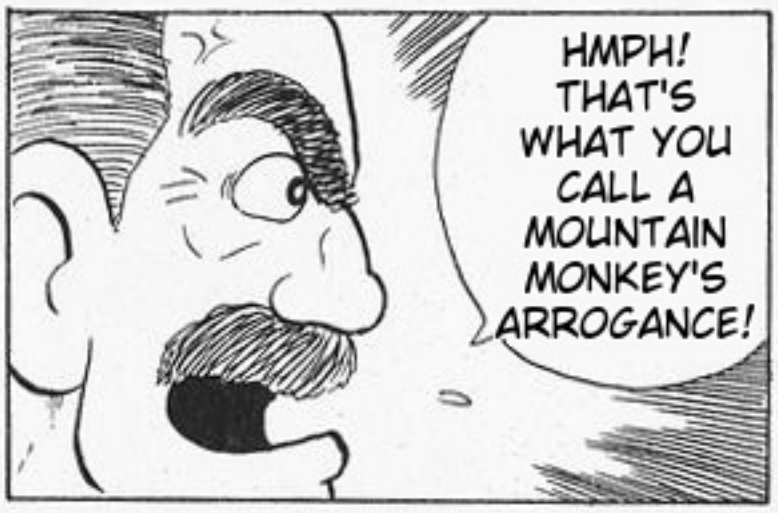
HMM, IT'S NOT BAD.

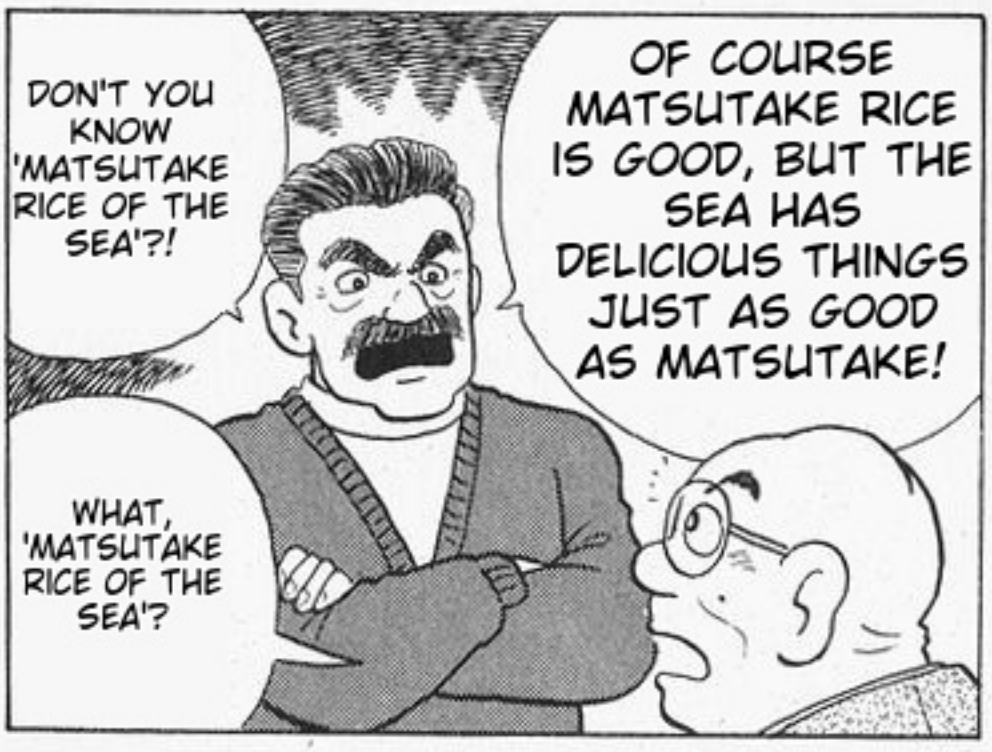
.....

WELL, HOW ABOUT IT, GIN-KO? ISN'T IT DELICIOUS?

OISHINBO 17







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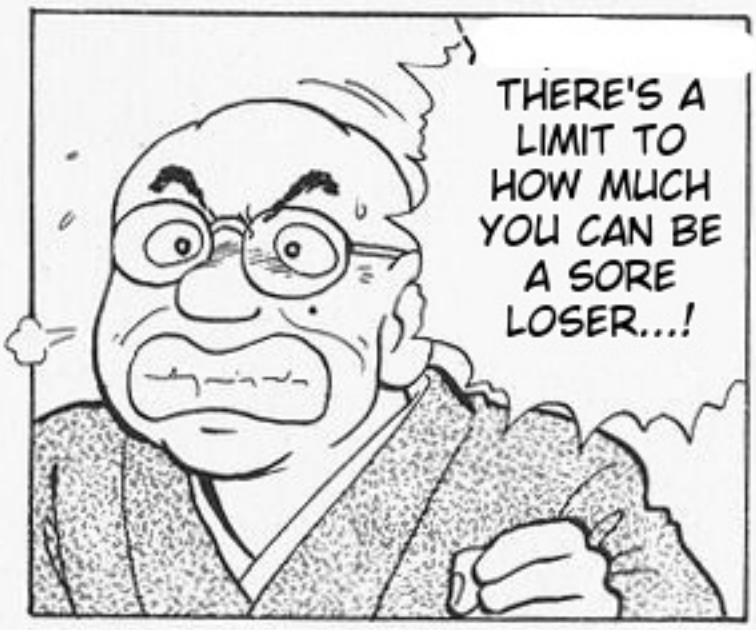


BUT NOT NOW. I'LL CALL YOU WHEN EARLY SUMMER COMES. LOOK FORWARD TO IT UNTIL THEN!

YEAH, I'LL LET YOU EAT IT!

ALRIGHT! LET'S HAVE YOU FEED US THAT 'SEA MATSUTAKE MUSHROOM RICE'!

IF IT'S TOO DELICIOUS AND YOUR CHEEKS FALL OFF, IT'LL BE A PROBLEM, SO BRING A DOCTOR WHEN YOU COME TO EAT!

HEH!

BUT IN RETURN, IF YOU FEED US ANYTHING STRANGE, WE WON'T LET YOU OFF EASY!

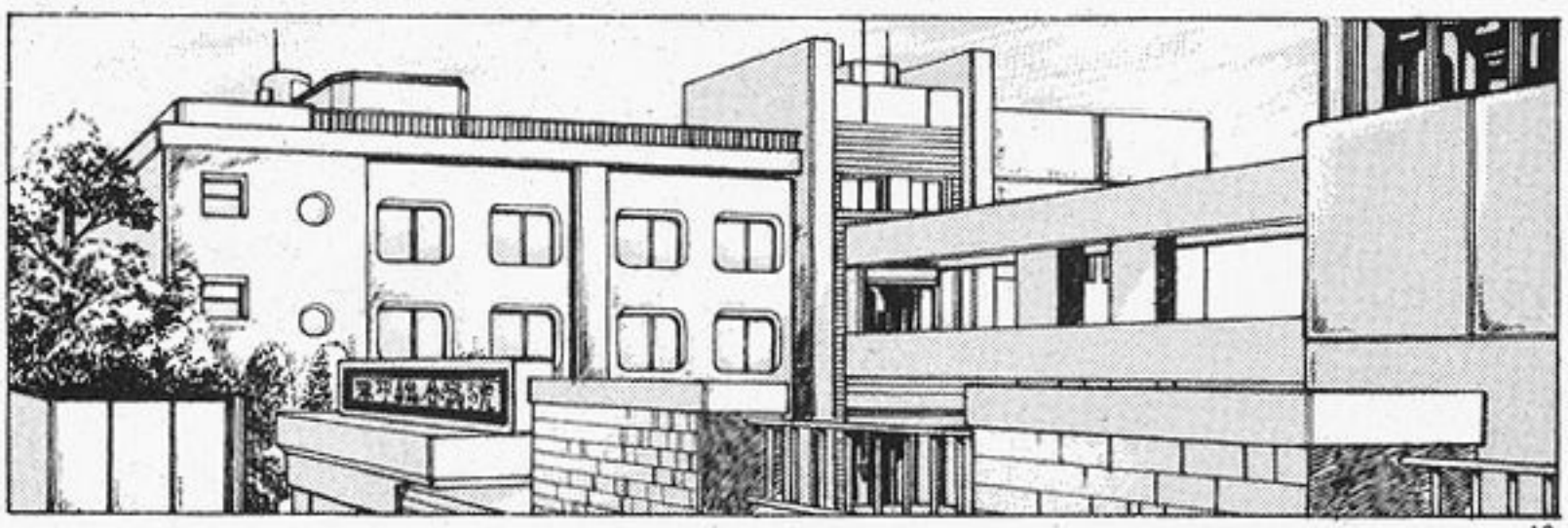
EARLY SUMMER OR WHENEVER, I DON'T CARE!

11

I WANT TO KNOW WHAT THIS 'SEA MATSUTAKE MUSHROOM RICE' IS LIKE...

WOW, THAT SURE ESCALATED.

DELICIOUS!



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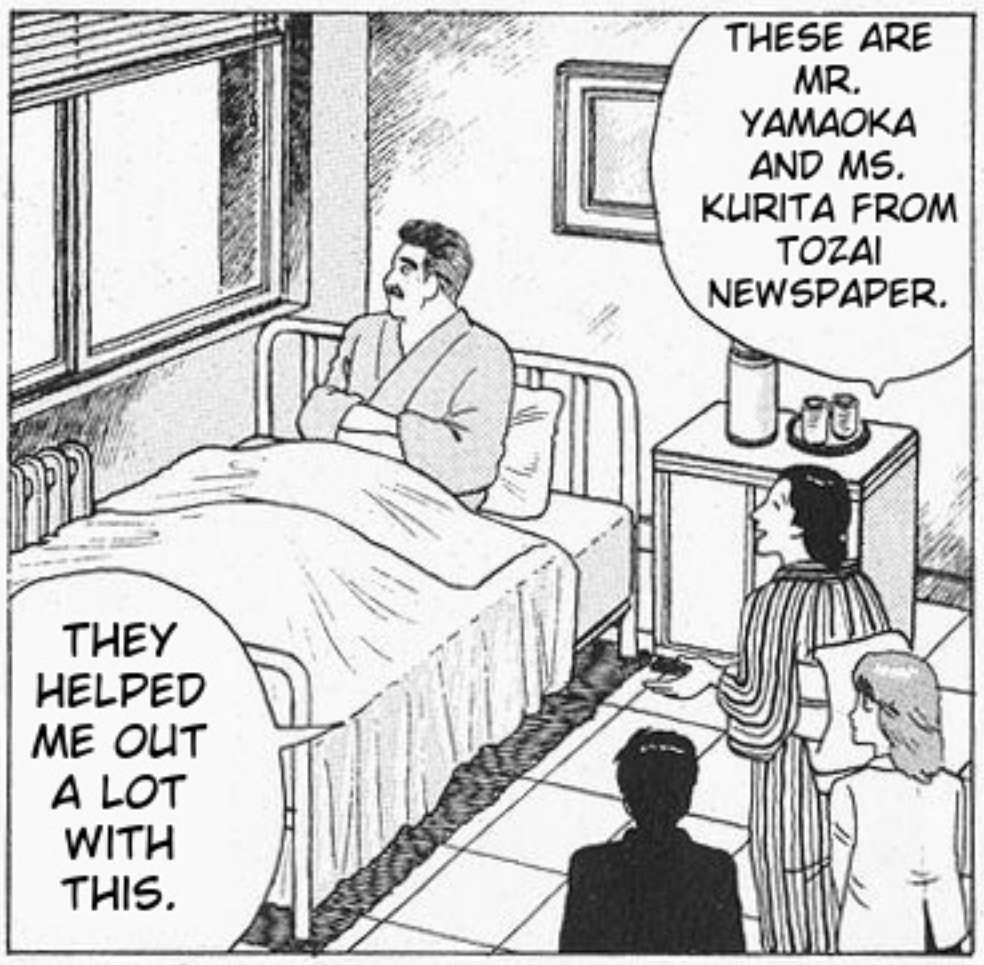


!

YOU...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING 'HERE?

REMEMBER TOZAI NEWSPAPER?

WHO ARE YOU?

WHY AM I HERE...?

THAT'S WEIRD...

IF REHAB DOESN'T GO WELL, THERE'S A RISK HE'LL TRANSITION TO SENILITY.

THAT SAID, THE IMPACT WAS SIGNIFICANT.

13

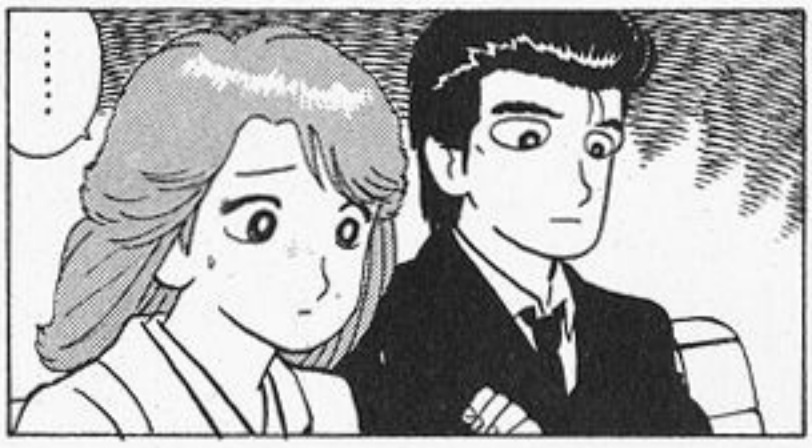
WHAT THE...?

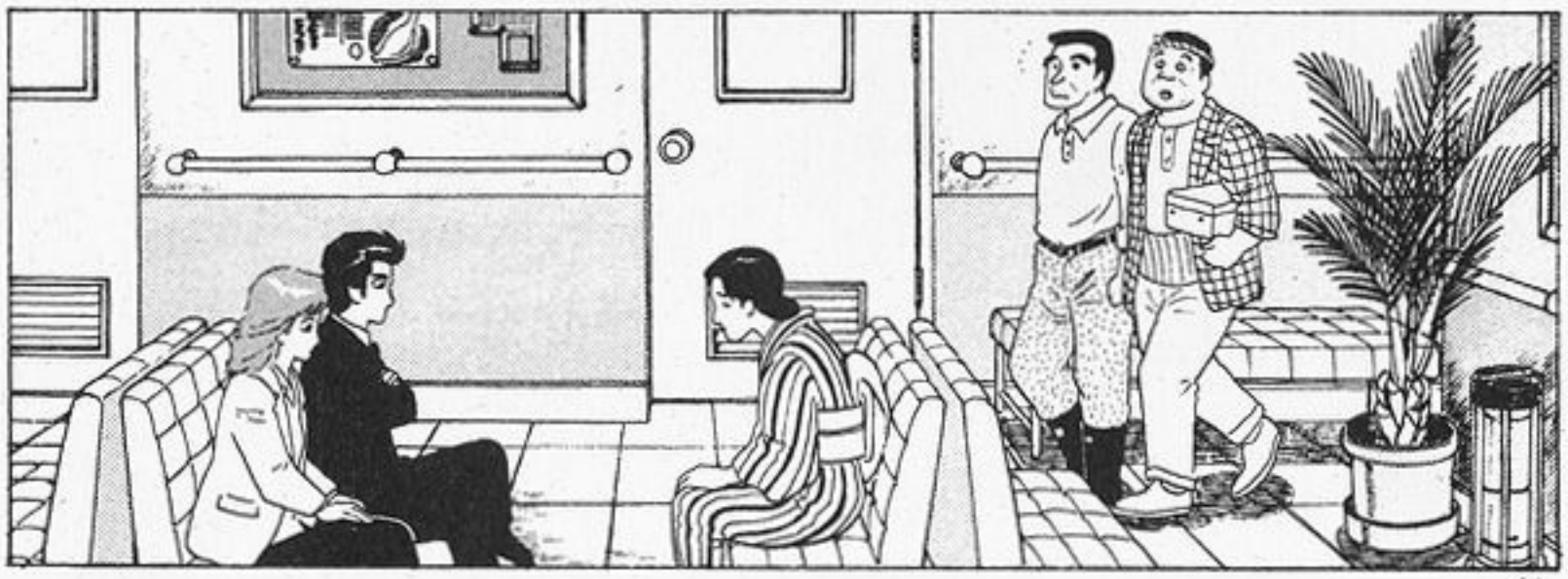
WELL...

I DON'T THINK IT'LL DIRECTLY CAUSE MAJOR DAMAGE TO HIS MENTAL FACULTIES.

BOTH THE LOCATION AND THE EXTENT OF THE BLEEDING...

OISHINBO 17





14

SENSEI IS SAID TO BE A MASTER PAINTER, BUT HE'S QUITE THE FISHERMAN TOO!

GINKŌ-SENSEI LOVES FISHING, AND WE OFTEN TAKE HIM OUT.

AH, YES, SENSEI KIYOTANI'S HOUSE WAS ON THE COAST IN HAYAMA, WASN'T IT?

REFUSING TO LISTEN TO ME BEGGING HIM TO STOP BECAUSE IT WAS COLD...

GINKŌ COLLAPSED WHEN HE STRIPPED STARK NAKED AND WAS ABOUT TO GO INTO THE SEA,

HUH...

AND HE FREE-DIVES AT THAT AGE.

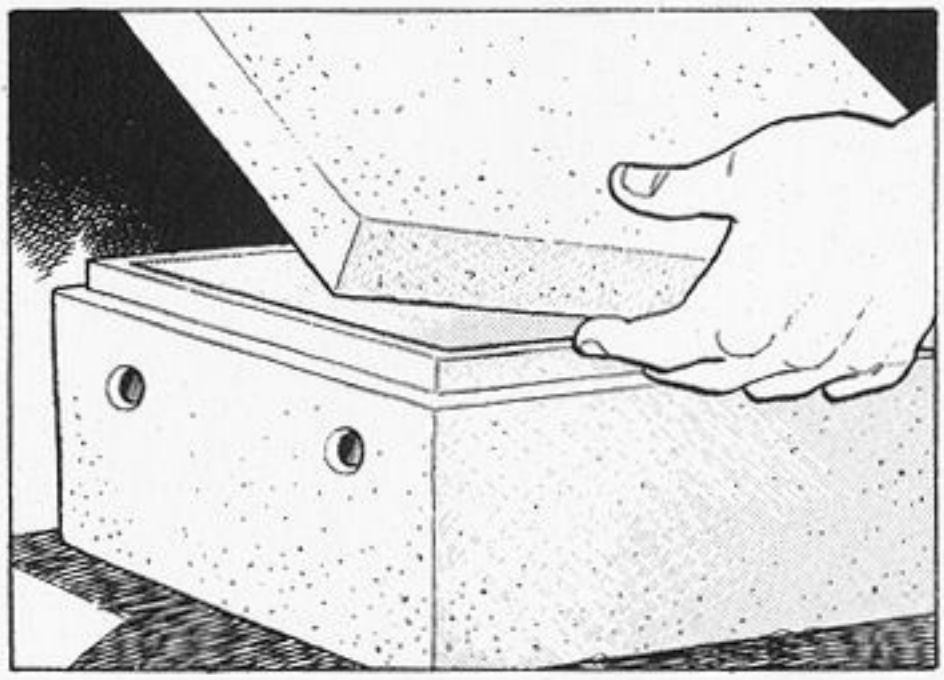
ACCORDING TO KYŌGOKU-SAN, DIDN'T SENSEI KIYOTANI SAY HE'D SERVE 'MATSUTAKE MUSHROOM RICE FROM THE SEA'?

HE INVITED KYŌGOKU-SAN OVER, SO HE PROBABLY WANTED TO TREAT HIM TO SOMETHING HE'D CAUGHT HIMSELF...

15

SENSEI WAS GOING TO DIVE IN TO CATCH THIS!

I BROUGHT IT FOR YOU!



WHAT?!
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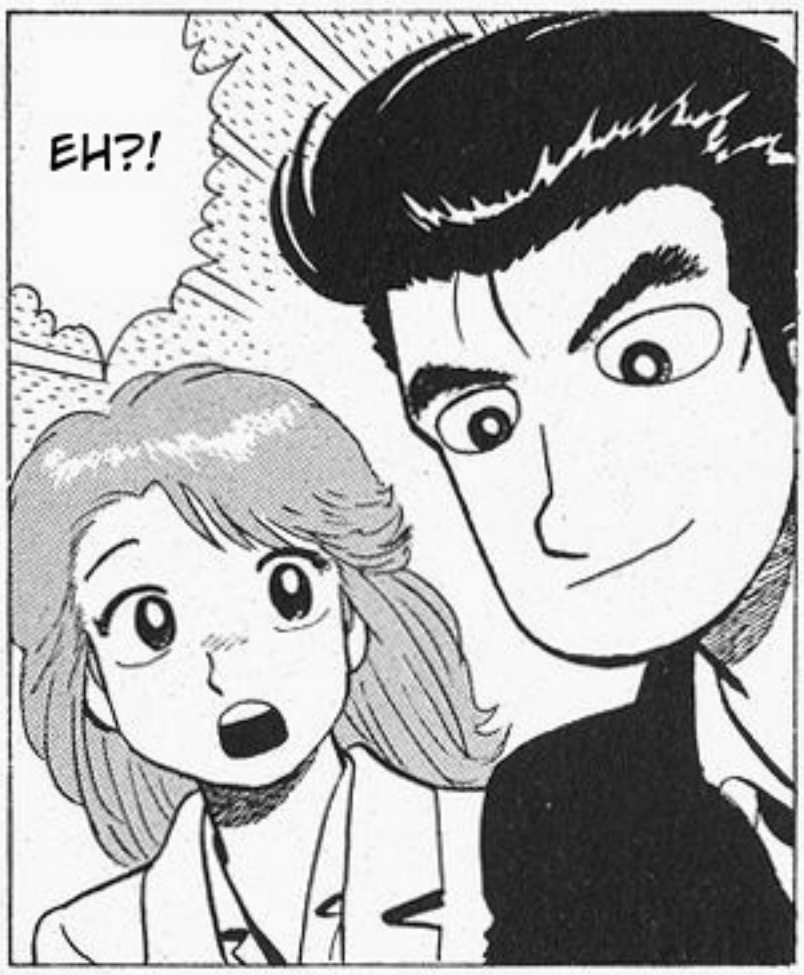
EH?!

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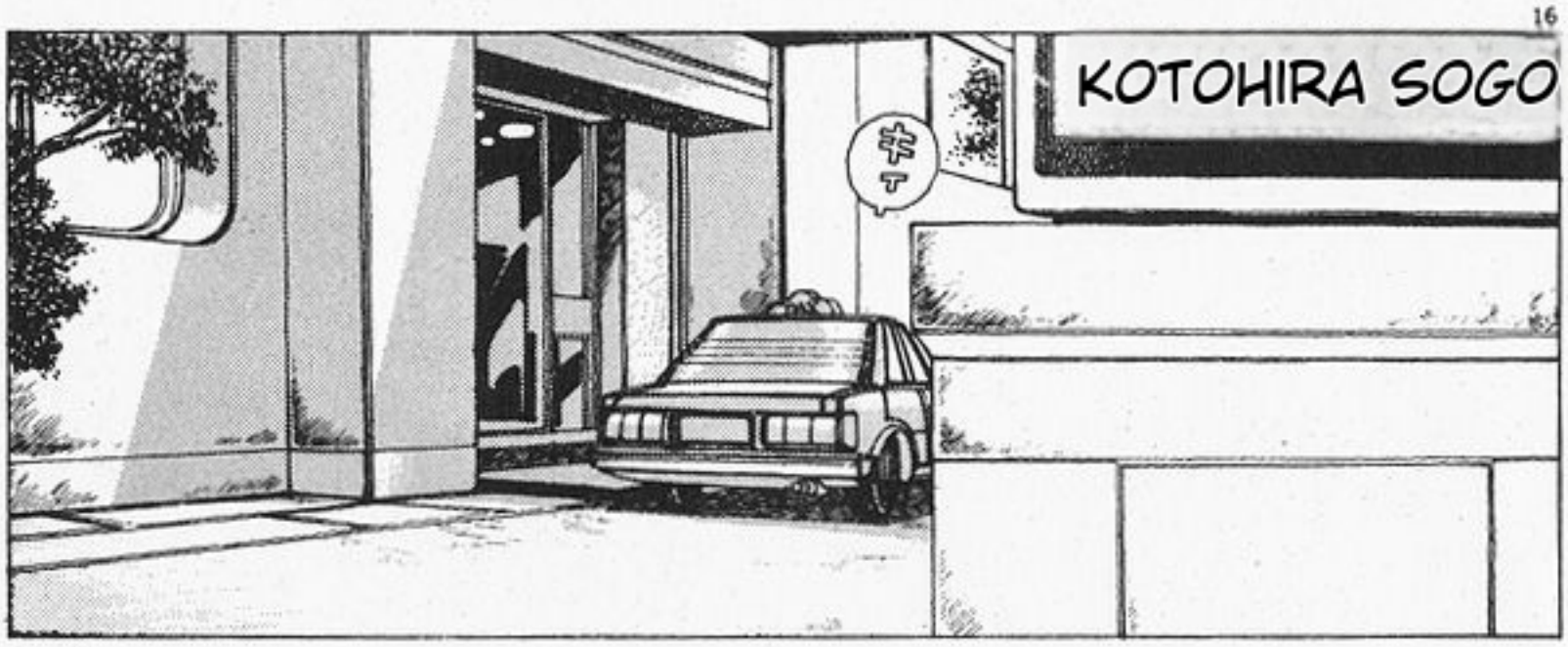
THE TRUE NATURE OF THE 'SEA MATSUTAKE MUSHROOM RICE'...!
I KNOW IT!


16
KOTOHIRA SOGO
ナナ

AND WE DECIDED TO HAVE MR. KIYOTANI TRY IT TOO.

SO I THOUGHT I'D TREAT MR. KYOGOKU.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT 'SEA MATSUTAKE RICE' IS?

IT WAS IMPORT-ANT TO GINKO.

SURE, I'M HAPPY TO LEARN WHAT 'SEA MATSUTAKE RICE' IS...

HERE IT IS, 'SEA MATSUTAKE RICE'.

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!

.....

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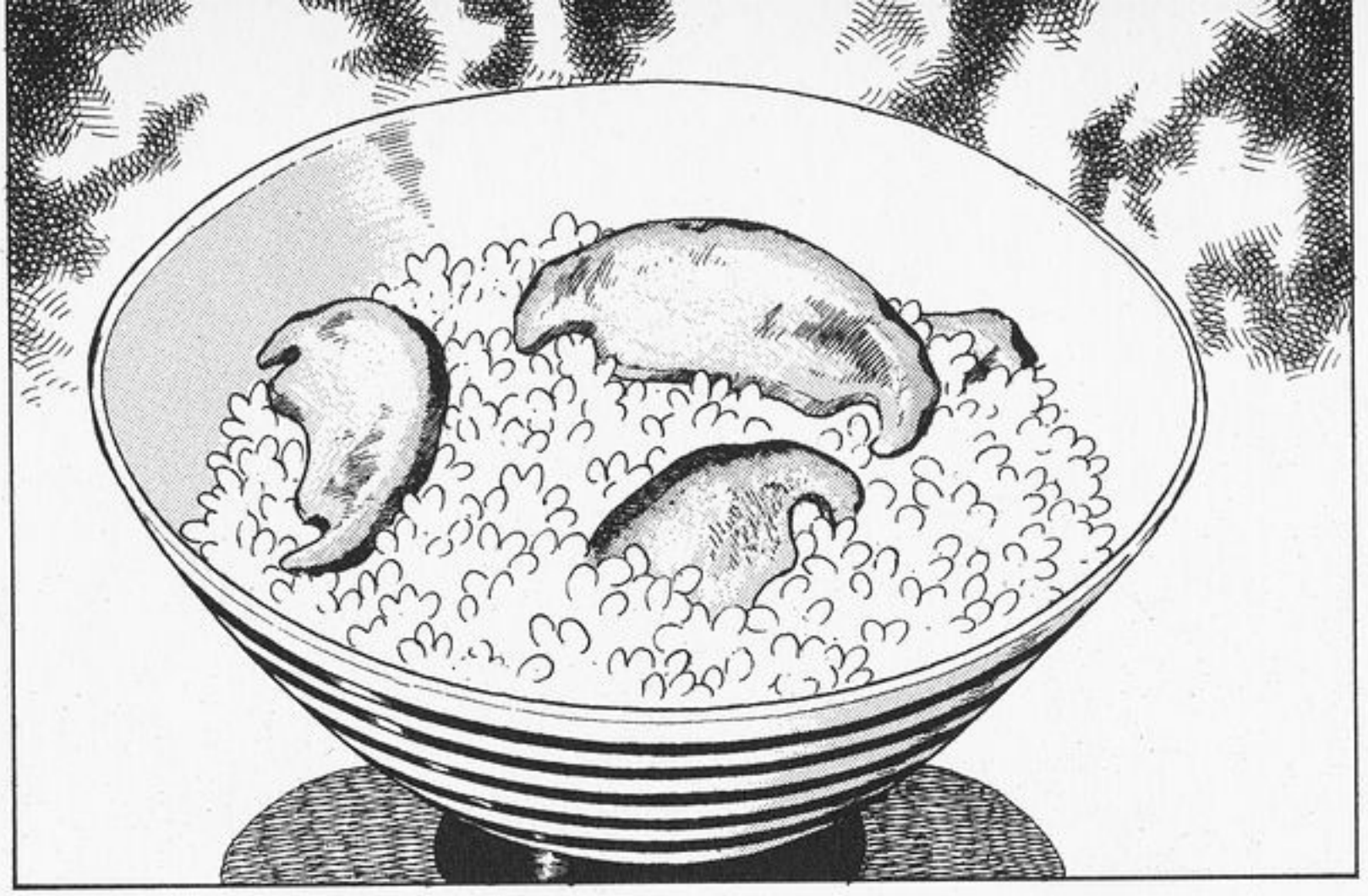
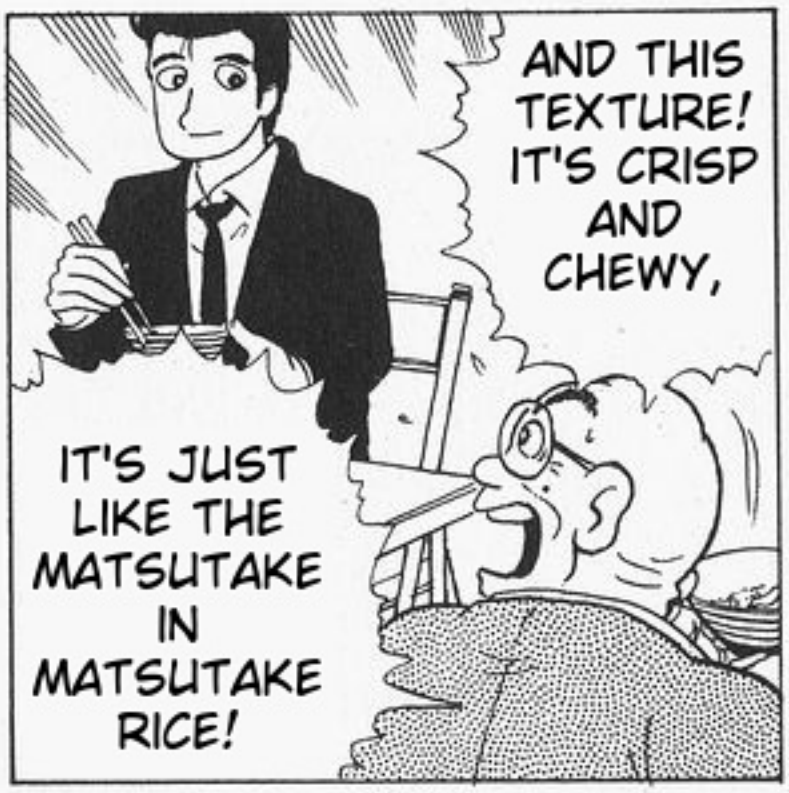


OH, AND THE AROMA IS NICE...

HUH... IT REALLY DOES LOOK LIKE MATSUTAKE RICE AT FIRST GLANCE...
ALTHOUGH, WHAT'S COOKED IN HERE IS A BIT BIGGER THAN MATSUTAKE...


AND THIS TEXTURE! IT'S CRISP AND CHEWY,
IT'S JUST LIKE THE MATSUTAKE IN MATSUTAKE RICE!

IT'S A SHELL! BUT WHAT A WONDERFUL FLAVOR THIS SHELL HAS!?!
O-OH! IT'S DELICIOUS!

BUT ABALONE IS TOO RICH; IT WOULDN'T CREATE THIS DELICATE FLAVOR...

WHEN YOU THINK OF A SHELLFISH THAT EXUDES A TASTE SO NOBLE IT COULD RIVAL ROYALTY, ONLY ABALONE COMES TO MIND...

WELL THEN, THIS MEANS...

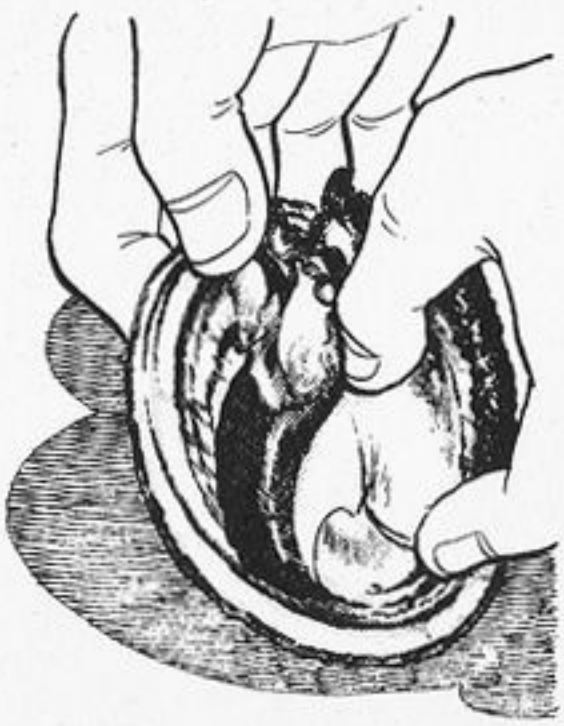
THOUGH, I MIGHT SAY THIS HAS A BETTER CRUNCH...

THE AROMA IS A VIBRANT KISS OF THE OCEAN... AND IF THE TASTE OF MATSUTAKE MUSHROOMS IS LIKE THE HEIGHT OF A MOUNTAIN, THIS IS LIKE THE DEPTH OF THE SEA...

IT'S THE TOP SHELL.

OH, IT'S THE TOP SHELL!

ONCE IT'S COOKED, REMOVE THE MEAT FROM THE SHELL AND SET ASIDE THE LIVER.

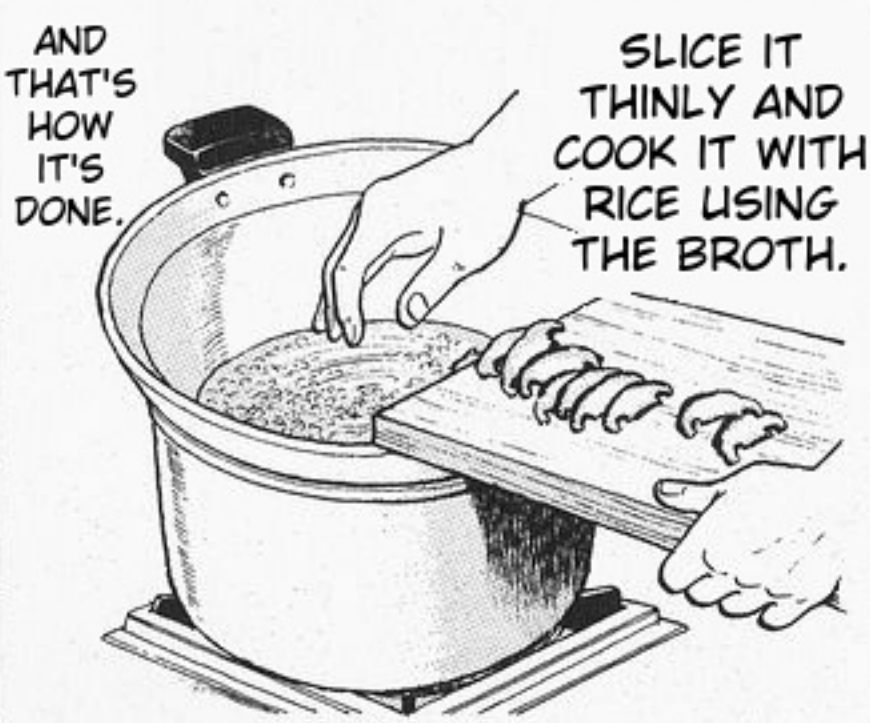


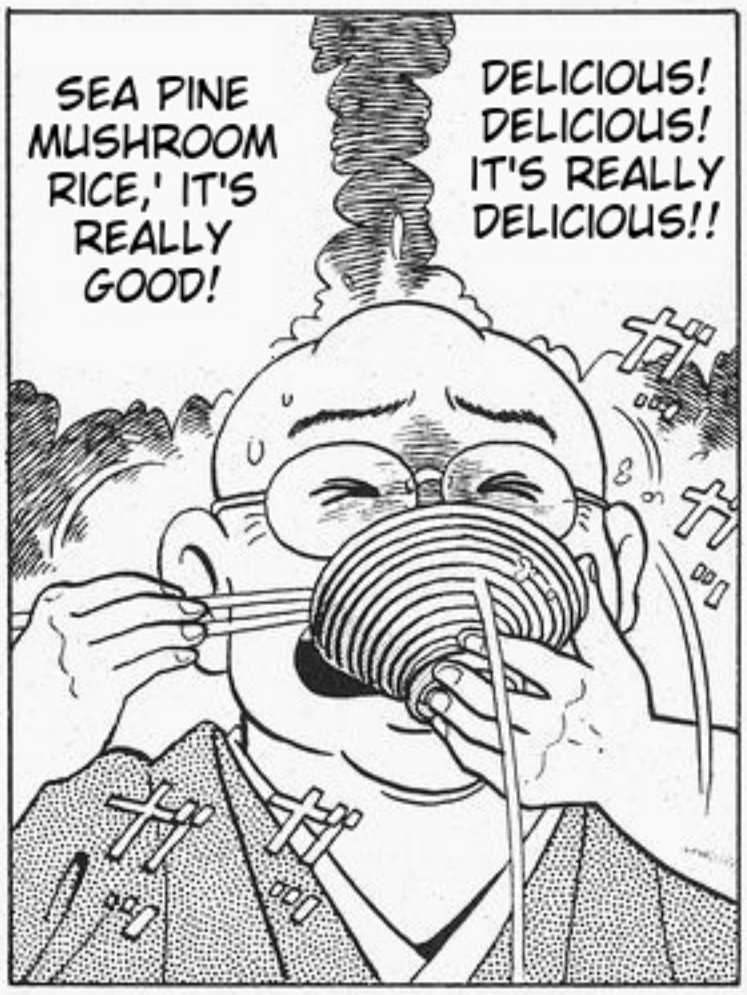
ADD MIRIN TO TASTE, AND GIVE IT A GENTLE SIMMER.

TAKE A LIVE TOP SHELL, AND DROWN IT IN PLENTY OF SAKE AND SOY SAUCE,

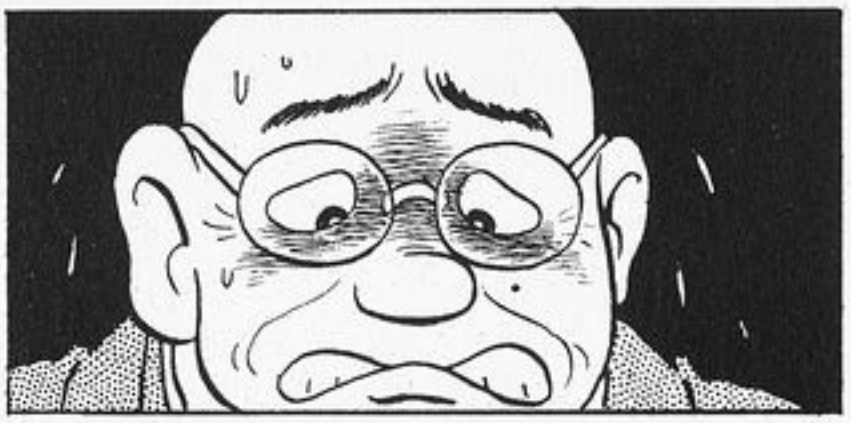
OISHINBO 17

THAT'S WHY DR. KIYOTANI TOLD ME TO WAIT UNTIL EARLY SUMMER FOR 'SEA PINE MUSHROOM RICE.
IN EARLY SUMMER, THE ABALONE FROM THE SHONAN AREA BECOMES THE MOST DELICIOUS.


AND THAT'S HOW IT'S DONE.
SLICE IT THINLY AND COOK IT WITH RICE USING THE BROTH.


SEA PINE MUSHROOM RICE,' IT'S REALLY GOOD!
DELICIOUS! DELICIOUS! IT'S REALLY DELICIOUS!!

TO MAKE THIS 'SEA PINE MUSHROOM RICE,' I TRIED TO DIVE INTO THE OCEAN AND HAD A SEIZURE...



WAH-HAH-HAH-HAH!! HOW ABOUT THAT, KYOGOKU? I WIN!

TAMBA MATSUTAKE IS GOOD, BUT THE ABALONE'S DELICIOUSNESS IS ALSO SOMETHING ELSE!

BOW DOWN TO THE DELICIOUSNESS OF 'SEA MATSUTAKE RICE'!!

YOU...

GINKO...!!

GAH...

HMM... KYOGOKU, WHEN DID YOU GET HERE?

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YOU!

WHY AM I IN A HOSPITAL BED?!

HOLD ON A MINUTE!

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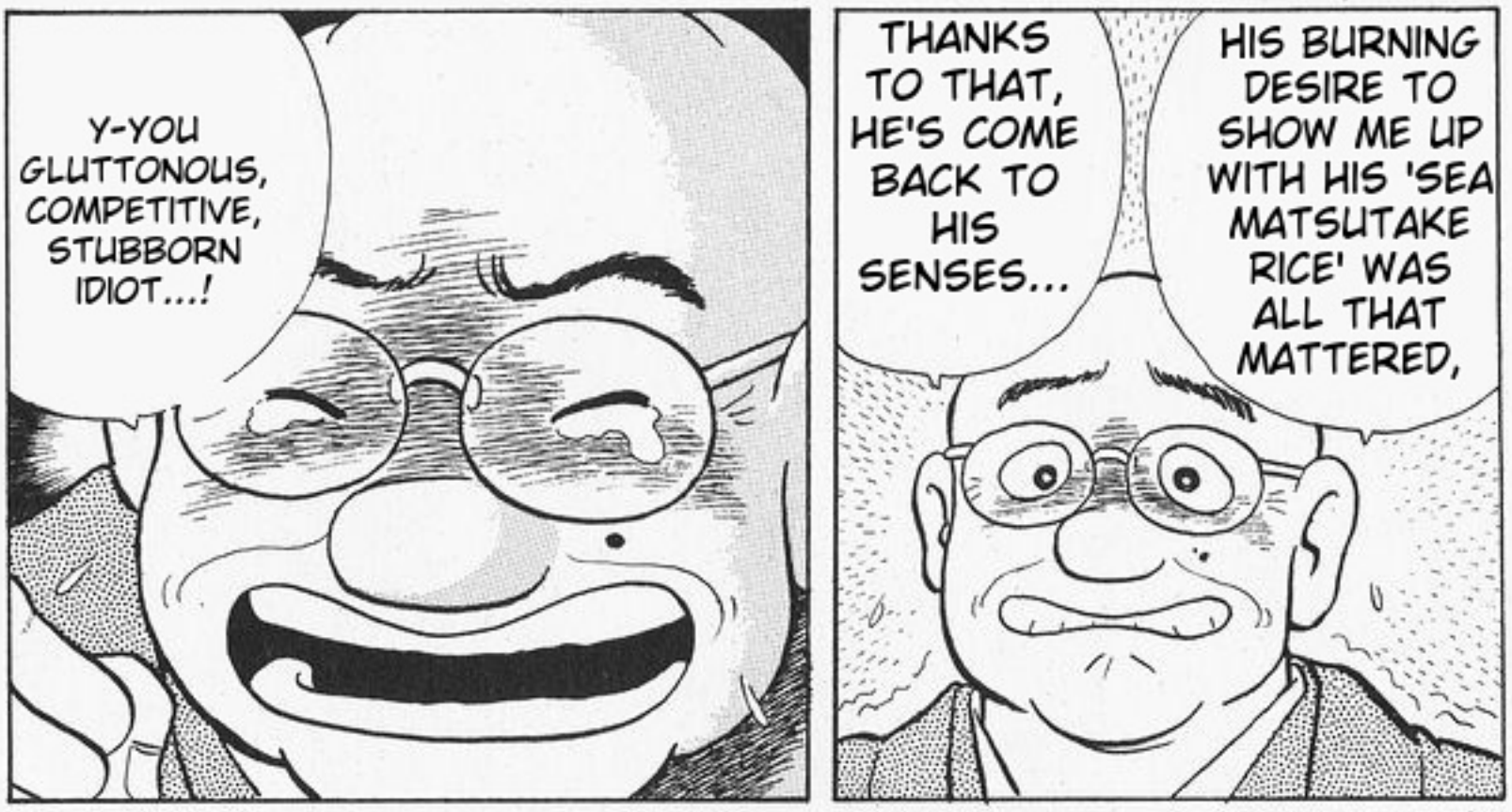
Y-YOU GLUTTONOUS, COMPETITIVE, STUBBORN IDIOT...!
THANKS TO THAT, HE'S COME BACK TO HIS SENSES...
HIS BURNING DESIRE TO SHOW ME UP WITH HIS 'SEA MATSUTAKE RICE' WAS ALL THAT MATTERED,

MR. KIYOTANI'S PAINTINGS COST MILLIONS OF YEN PER SQUARE FOOT. THIS IS A FORTUNE IN ITSELF!

IT'S WONDERFUL.

MR. KIYOTANI SAID IT WAS A THANK YOU GIFT FOR TAKING CARE OF HIM, AND HE GAVE IT TO US.

LOOK, OUR COMPANY'S TREASURE HAS INCREASED.

ABALONE IS BIGGER THAN TOKOBUSHI, SO THE PAINTING WILL BE BIGGER TOO, RIGHT?

SO, IT'LL BE WORTH MORE, RIGHT?

OH... IS MR. KIYOTANI'S PAINTINGS THAT EXPENSIVE? WELL, THEN NEXT TIME I'LL HAVE HIM PAINT AN ABALONE.

HEY, HEY, DON'T TALK ABOUT MONEY RIGHT AWAY! IT'S VULGAR.

AH... THERE'S SOMEONE EVEN MORE VULGAR.

OISHINBO, VOL. 17 - THE END -

美味(おい)しんぼ17　—餃子の春—

ビッグ コミックス

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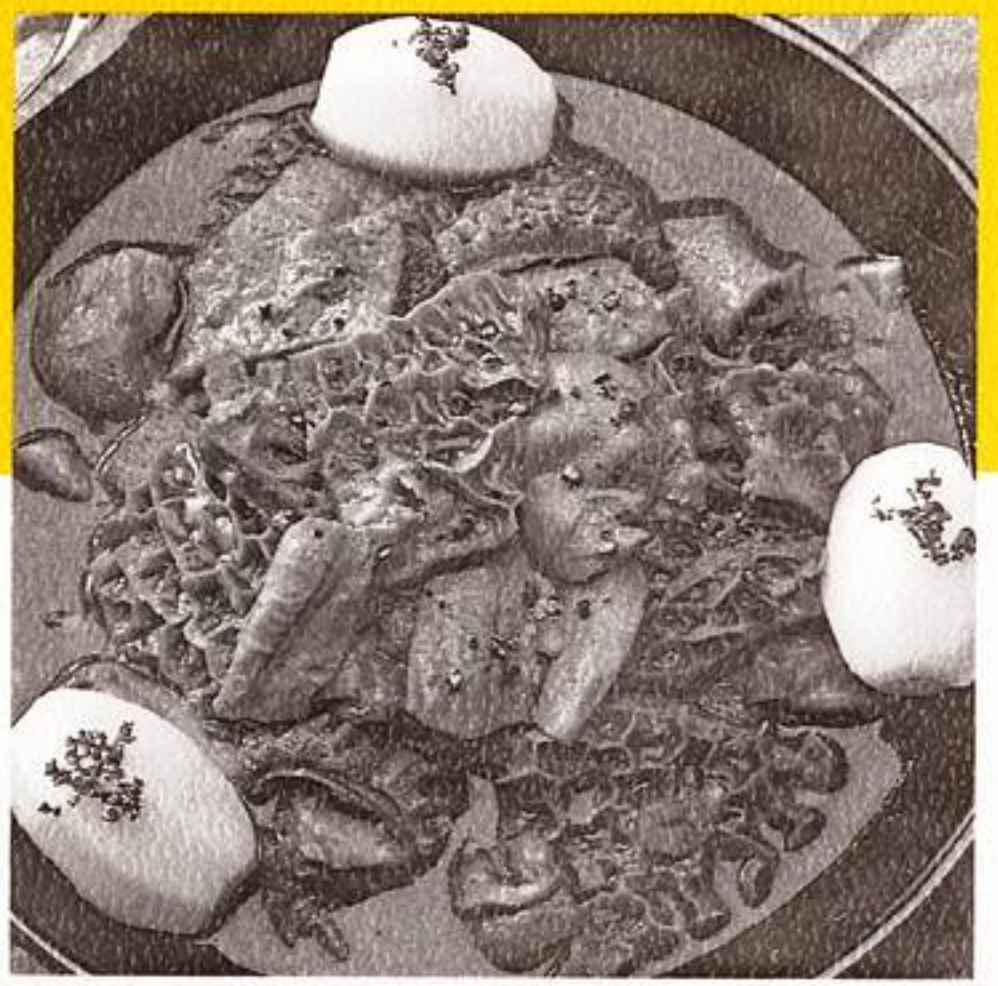

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